

VOL. 3 NO. 2 FEBRUARY, 1961

MONTHLY

SECURITY GAZETTE

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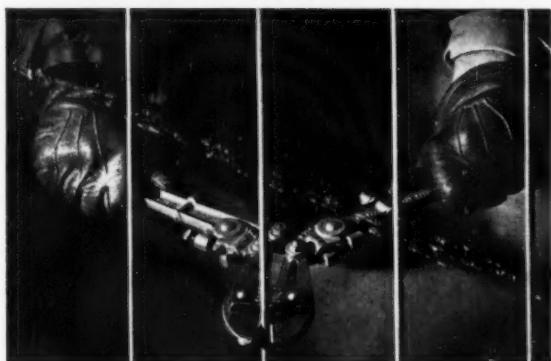
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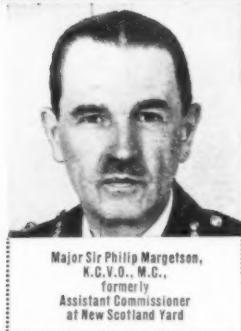
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SECURITY GAZETTE

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COVER PICTURE: A lecture in progress in the Demonstration Theatre at the Civil Defence Staff College, Sunningdale. The first article in our new civil defence section is contained in this issue.

Structure of the Police

WITH the settlement of the police pay claims at a stable level, the continuing work of the Royal Commission is attracting attention to the actual organisation of the police. It is a sphere which inevitably introduces a measure of controversy, but one that cannot be ignored. So far only the views of the municipal corporations, the magistrates, and of certain legal interests have been officially put forward. The turn of the police will come later. But already it has become clear that the police representatives at least will have an opportunity to clear away the muddled thinking which at present is clouding the issues.

They concentrate on the idea of a national police force; unfortunately the word "national" is raising many old phobias. For instance, one representative of the Association of Municipal Corporations fears the introduction of a Minister of the Interior who would "order Chief Constables to arrest people". How such a Minister could repudiate Parliament or the courts is not explained. A second spokesman praised the development of regional police activities but would still fight to the bitter end any extension to a national basis. Similarly the Inns of Court Conservative and Unionist Society wishes to increase efficiency by regional grouping of Forces but, whilst admitting that the Home Secretary "controls" the police already, rejects the project of a national Force because it would be under a political head: an illogical argument that also ignores the power of Parliamentary and judicial authority over the executive. Finally the Magistrates' Association finds a national Force to be "not practicable" but in its desire to put the fight against crime on a sound footing goes to the extent of recommending a reduction in the number of Forces (tantamount to the regional idea again) and a uniform police authority for all Forces.

Hence the Commission has been presented by the civilian witnesses with the general principle that every effort must be made to rationalise and improve the police provided there is no interference with the tradition of local administration and supervision: a severe qualification. With the underlying reason there can be every sympathy. The image of a politically-controlled, and highly centralised Force which could be adapted overnight to dictatorial ends is most certainly repugnant to present British conceptions. But it is to be regretted that the jealousies of local authorities and notions of blue-uniformed *gauleiters* ruling the land are preventing the problems of the police from being studied objectively and seriously. The end of creating a nation-wide professional weapon against criminals who operate without reference to boundaries is thus being jeopardised by confusion about means. (The establishment, for example, of regional methods of police co-operation, accepted in local government circles as necessary, must inevitably interfere with local administration, just as, conversely, reform of local government by the introduction of larger administrative units would bring larger Forces into being.) Nor do those, be they serving police officers or not, who are seeking to build up professional efficiency

wish to introduce a leviathan, unwieldy, and undemocratic amalgamation of every Force. The point for the Commission to consider and clarify is the method by which inherited administrative and tactical obstructions that give the criminal undoubted advantages can be removed.

Regional co-operation to which the police are themselves voluntarily moving will bring clear benefits. But is progress to inter-regional work—which is what is meant by a national structure—then to be frustrated because of political or administrative prejudices? Just as police functions have extended over the years from parish to regional scale, so they will undoubtedly move on to a national scale. Of course such a growth will have to be accomplished with proper regard to political liberties. That is not in question—though few critics seem to realise that before the police become a political threat Parliament itself must first be overthrown. But it is equally evident that the fight against crime—the thing that really disturbs public opinion—either on the prevention or the detection aspects will force closer integration. That is the condition of gaining the upper hand. Whether its members agree with this or not, the Commission can however do the police a real service by judging objectively the steps required for higher efficiency and setting out dispassionately the police structure most suitable for attaining it. And on the police side the only approach which will carry conviction—and lead to adequate support for the serving officer—is the presentation of argument and opinion on a strictly professional basis. The report of the Commission this year could provide the police with a sound organisation capable of tackling crime effectively for the next decade or two. It is an opportunity not to be lost.

Maintaining Supervision

A CASE involving thefts from a parcels depot (a report is on page 61) led to an interesting comment by the Assistant Recorder passing sentence. In his view the B.R.S. management could not be expected to guard all the goods in question or supervise all their trusted employees, having regard especially to labour difficulties.

This is a constant problem for managements with charge over a wide range and quantity of goods. Customers will not easily accept the Assistant Recorder's opinions, and companies which adopt this outlook as an excuse for not implementing proper security will usually find their losses, known or concealed, can run at a very high rate. It is in fact an out-dated conception. The essence of modern industrial security is that it aims at continual overall supervision of *all* goods and *all* personnel. And on the extent to which it implements present-day techniques and skills depends very largely the attitude of employees. Trusted men indeed like to know they are backed by good security, which is at the same time a measure of managerial efficiency.

On efficient crime prevention in racing depends the reputation and prestige of a great sport and industry. In this article, "Captain Heath", of the "Daily Mail", reviews how the Jockey Club is facing up to its responsibilities.

COUNTERING THE DOPING MENACE

The Turf's System of Security

By Julian Simcocks

EARLY in March the Stewards of the Jockey Club, who rule flat racing in Great Britain, will have placed before them a most important document. It will be the findings of a three-man committee set up to enquire into every aspect of the administration of dope to racehorses.

For last season the Turf was shaken by a spate of heavily backed horses, strongly fancied to win races, running far below their true form and being beaten. Private saliva tests taken afterwards at the request of owners and trainers revealed that these horses had been "got at". They had been doped to lose—nobbled—and included racehorses from the stables of the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Derby, and other famous owners.

£100,000 Coup

It was the work of an extremely well organised gang which operated in this way. A horse certain to start firm favourite for its next race was marked down. Then a lad in the stable where the horse was trained was approached, either by a member of the gang or one of their women accomplices. Some stable lads, poorly paid (earning between £8 and £9 a week) and not possessed in the main of a high level of intelligence, proved easy meat. Bribed by one means or another, the lad agreed to administer a capsule to the horse.

Once the nobblers were sure that the horse had been treated with their slowing-down drug, they went into action. Instead of backing the horse, they "laid" it. In other words, they were willing to accept bets against the horse winning.

During the relatively few weeks during which the gang was operating last year, it is estimated that its members took more than £100,000 out of the betting ring by nefarious means, simply by "laying" horses they knew were physically incapable of winning.

February, 1961

That gang is no more. It was broken up by the Jockey Club's Special Investigation team. The ring-leaders departed rapidly for their homeland, Australia. Their girl-friends were told never to show themselves on racecourses again, and one or two self-styled bookmakers who had worked in co-operation with the gang to "lay" the doped horses were advised it would be wise to retire from business.

The Turf cleaned up that particular problem in its own way—without publicity. By contrast the trial of a bunch of stablemen who tried to supplement their wages by ill-contrived and very amateur doping methods was played up in some newspapers as though a huge plot had been brought to light. In fact, the pathetic efforts of these stable lads were of little importance compared with the highly professional operations of the real dopers.

Behind the Scenes

The Jockey Club's security squad has always worked out of the public eye. It came into being many years before the last war to clean up racing, which had been marred by wars between gangs over the right to collect protection money from racecourse bookmakers. Matters came to a head with a gory battle between the rivals on a Sussex racecourse.

It was then that the Jockey Club's security men, led by the late Jack Bebbington, really cleaned up the Turf. Consequently, no known conman, dip (pickpocket), or member of the broads mob (professional card sharper) can enter a racecourse today.

Incidentally, the broads mob still work the race trains. I will guarantee that there will be at least half a dozen card sharps aboard each race special to, say, Newmarket or Newbury this year. It amazes me

that, despite the broadcast announcements at the major stations that known cardsharps are operating on the train, they still find "steamers" (steam tugs=mugs) to play with them. The moral is: never play cards with strangers, especially on a race train—and more especially if the man inviting you to play appears to be drunk.

The Jockey Club security men, all of them former police detectives, who work from the Personnel Office at Messrs. Weatherby's (secretaries to the Jockey Club and National Hunt Committee) in Cavendish Square, London, are led now by Col. N. M. Blair, O.B.E., and his deputy, Col. H. B. McNally, O.B.E.

They operate at every meeting run under the Rules of Racing. One of their duties is to safeguard the racecourse stables, allowing only authorised persons, such as trainers and owners, and stable lads (who carry a special pass, renewed annually, bearing a recent photo of the holder) to enter the stable yards and attend to the horses there.

They watch racecourse entrances unobtrusively, too, and any undesirable who manages to filter through the security net is usually picked up inside the course and quietly escorted outside again.

A sharp eye is kept on the betting market. Any marked opposition to a horse which by rights should be well backed is noted. Enquiries can then be set on foot quickly should they prove necessary.

Painstaking work, hush-hush work, unsung, unpublicised. But it goes on all the time to ensure that the racing public can enjoy its sport in relative peace and protection.

Difficulty of Control

But all this security work at the racecourses cannot stop the doping of horses. All of the animals treated by the gang operating in Britain so

successfully in 1960 were nobbled in their own stables, usually by men working in those stables.

There was one case last year to my knowledge, however, where two men bribed a lad employed in an Epsom stable to tell them the number of the box containing a very fast two-year-old expected to win its next race. On the night before the race they threw a rope ladder over a wall of the locked stable yard, entered the box, gave the horse a capsule containing a barbiturate type of drug, and got away without their entrance having been suspected.

The horse, heavily backed by its owner and trainer, ran so badly that it was obvious something was amiss. The trainer instituted his own enquiries and discovered the truth . . . too late.

No trainer can possibly make his stable 100 per cent secure. Labour in racing establishments is in such short supply that most trainers are grateful to take on an experienced lad who offers his services. And it needs only one venal lad in a stable for the nobblers to be able to do their work.

Defining Use of Dope

All these aspects are being looked into by the three-man committee set up by the Jockey Club. The members are the Duke of Norfolk (two of whose horses were nobbled last year), Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, scientific director and chairman of the Animal Health Trust, and Sir Laurence Byrne, the former High Court judge: a happy blend of great experience of racing administration, veterinary knowledge, and legal judgment.

One of the matters to be considered by the committee is: What constitutes dope—or, to use the words of the Jockey Club's Rules, "drugs or stimulants for the purpose of affecting the speed of a horse"?

A number of proprietary horse medicines contain stimulating drugs—strychnine, for instance—traces of which could show were a horse's saliva tested later. In this connection there has been considerable criticism of the very fine limits to which the public analyst works when testing samples of horses' saliva at the behest of the Jockey Club.

It has been suggested, too, that

the saliva of some horses has shown positive reaction because the animals have been fed on oats which, while growing, have been sprayed with an insecticide or pest destroyer containing minute amounts of drugs considered as stimulants by the Jockey Club's analyst.

Whisky and port used to be given regularly to horses during the last century. That is banned now, but a horse can still have two or three pints of stout in his mash each day and not be considered to have been stimulated.

Where is the line to be drawn? Are the tablets which an elderly gentleman quite legitimately buys to rejuvenate himself to be regarded as drugs when served to elderly racehorses? Is cortisone and its derivatives, of such value in the treatment of rheumatism and arthritis, to be barred to horses because they may "pep" them up?

These are among the problems being thrashed out now by the committee. And that is why the report to be handed to the Jockey Club next month is so very important to the future of racing and all concerned with this enormous industry.



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Letter to the Editor

Position of Staffs in Bank Security

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read the article in your December edition on the banks' approach to security. In it you put the point of view that possibly the banks are adopting the attitude that the responsibility for the prevention of bank robberies is that of the police and so, logically, the Government.

While this is true to a certain extent it must be pointed out that the banks themselves have certain obligations in this field which they are not fully discharging. There is a lot that could be done in the field of bank security. A lot of research could be usefully utilised in respect of automatic alarm bells, automatic camera devices, acoustic devices to intercept raiders, modernising strong room doors and safes and even the question of placing bank safes in the floodlit front window of the premises so that any interference could be easily seen by the public and the police outside.

There is also much that could be done in the field of the bank security guard himself. It is sad that several of the security guards are pensioners who take on this position to eke out their existing pensions, and it is sad that the banks do not pay sufficient salaries to attract the younger, more virile type of guard.

Above all, it is sad that the majority of the banks do not take into account the opinions and ideas of 53,000 bank clerks as represented by the National Union of Bank Employees. We approached the Committee of London Clearing Bankers and asked them if they would discuss the problems of bank security—and the measures to combat them—with us, but our request was rejected. Surely the staff have a right to be consulted over this question which concerns each one of them. Can the banks afford to shelve their responsibility by adopting this unrealistic attitude?

Yours faithfully,

LEIF MILLS,

Publicity Officer,
The National Union of
Bank Employees.

28 Old Queen Street,
London, S.W.1.

February, 1961

Banks' Attitude

This letter has been passed, with Mr. Mills's agreement, to the Banking Information Service, the Secretary of which, Mr. J. A. Hunsworth, replies:

"There has been much ill-informed talk recently about what the banks are failing to do, and what the banks ought to do, while the banks have been quietly getting on with it. In their recent annual address to stock and shareholders, the Chairmen of Barclays and Midland banks both gave a glimpse of the active measures being taken—measures which, in fact, all banks are taking—to combat the raider.

"For the sake of overall accuracy we would add that the banks discuss security precautions with, and listen to the views of, the recognised staff representative bodies."

Edinburgh's 10% Crime Increase

The past year brought a rise of 10 per cent in crime over 1959 in Edinburgh, reports the Chief Constable, Mr. J. R. Inch. Housebreakings went up by about 20 per cent and thefts from parked cars by some 50 per cent.

The car theft problem became a major problem, he says. Car radios were a special target. Special squads were delegated to tackle the trouble.

Mr. Inch points out that the majority of house breakings took place while the occupants were asleep. He states that most could have been prevented by mortise locks on doors and adequate protection of windows.

The incidence of crimes of violence and crimes against the person remained at about the same level.

BARCLAYS REPORT ON SECURITY **Chairman's Statement**

A significant step has been taken by Mr. A. W. Tuke, Chairman of Barclays Bank, in giving the public insight into his Bank's re-organisation of security measures. The Gazette welcomes this progressive attitude towards security and crime prevention for which it has long campaigned. Mr. Tuke in his annual statement said :

"It is necessary to keep a sense of proportion about these attacks [on branches and staffs]. The fact is that the majority are unsuccessful. Out of 39 attacks made on the premises and staff of this bank during the past 12 years, no less than 29, that is three out of four, were total failures. Even this year, the worst we have ever had, out of every three attacks only one has succeeded.

The protection of our staff is our first concern, but our doors have to be open to the public, and against the sudden irruption of irresponsible thugs there can be no total safeguard. It is for this reason that we have recently taken out an insurance policy covering every member of our staff up to a sum of £10,000 against serious injury in the course of his or her duties.

Peril to Raiders

"Many branches of the bank have long been fitted with alarms operated by human agency, and we are continually extending the provision of this method of defence. These alarms differ in their nature according to local circumstances. The old-fashioned ones ring bells in the street, but unfortunately we cannot rely upon some passer-by to take the initiative in giving the alarm.

"More recently we have installed, and are installing, new devices which give warning secretly in such a way as to lead to the identification and apprehension of the criminals. The fitting of these contrivances is continuing progressively, and their variety imports an element of

surprise which in itself renders these operations more hazardous to the raider.

"So far as concerns our strong rooms, we are constantly looking to the perfection of our defences in the knowledge of advances in the use of explosives, and here also we are installing new automatic warning devices. Stockholders will not expect me to enlarge upon their nature beyond saying that they are all designed to give warning unawares and sufficiently early to prevent the would-be entrant from completing his plan. Inevitably this is involving us in a good deal of expense, but we are determined to do what we can by our own efforts to prevent this growing wave of crime. Public awareness, and the prompt reporting of suspicious movements, can help us immensely in this task.

Advice on Cash Carrying

"There remains the question of the street raids and the problems involved in the transport of cash. We are anxious to do everything possible in co-operation with our customers to reduce the incidence of this risk, and there is much that can be done, for instance, by using different branches for the collection of cash and by varying the days of the week on which the cash is collected. We are all disposed to think that it cannot happen to us. We need all to take more care and show more vigilance. In particular, all concerned would do well to preserve a discreet silence, whether members of the staffs of the branches or others concerned in any way with the movement of cash.

"Our managers have already been instructed to work in the closest co-operation with the police, and in particular, to keep them informed of any circumstances which might render a particular branch more vulnerable to attack. We can, of course, rely on the full co-operation of the police, but unfortunately many police forces are at present inadequate in numbers for the proper performance of their duties."

CRIME PREVENTION NEWS

KENT CONSTABULARY'S P.R. STEP

Kent County Constabulary has initiated a vigorous public relations campaign aimed at increasing public confidence in its efficient and go-ahead Force. A regular news service is now issued to the Press and on suitable occasions facilities are available for the attendance of reporters, photographers and television cameras.

The news service is channelled through the Kent County Council Public Relations Officer who is briefed by the County Police. The use of a professional public relations expert is a new departure in police-public relations, though it is to be feared that

few county councils will be found as co-operative. Where such arrangements are found to be impossible the police must take the initiative and issue their own news service. Staffordshire, Lanarkshire, Durham and Gloucestershire Forces, among others, have already won a regular niche for themselves in the Press by their individual efforts and with the growth of experience it is to be hoped that soon every Force in the country will have its competent news service to which the journalist will naturally turn for a good story.

SECURICOR START ARMOURED SECURITY DIVISION IN LONDON

Securicor Limited, who last autumn announced the extension of their radio controlled patrols, brought in the New Year by inaugurating an armoured security division in the Greater London area.

A similar division has already been operating for six months at their Southampton branch. This cash-carrying and valuables protection service, says the company, is a logical expansion of their activities. It will enable them to offer a composite service whereby they will not only protect clients' property by night, claimed to be worth £1,000 millions, but will also guard cash and valuables by day.

The vehicles have been specially designed by experts to resist violent attacks. The methods of operation are confidential to members of the Armoured Security Division. The crews are hand picked, highly trained security officers, experienced in all branches of security and specially recruited from within the organisation. All vehicles are in constant radio



*A unit of the new
Armoured Division of Securicor
reports in from a night
assignment.*

communication with Headquarters, where new strong room facilities have been introduced.

The Armoured Security Division is Securicor's answer to the increasing numbers of wages grabs often involving violence and injury to staff. The company believes that the only way to defeat highly organised gangs is by the use of a still more highly organised and efficient security service.

AIR FLYING SQUAD—

Durham's Initiative

The Durham constabulary has set up an air "flying squad" of three men who have been specially trained for the job in an aerial observers' course at an R.A.F. Station. The squad, consisting of an inspector and two sergeants, will take part in manhunts and in "spotting" operations against gangsters in cars. Flying from Newcastle-on-Tyne airport they will be able to keep watch on the routes taken by escaping gangsters over a wide area.

R.H.A. SECURITY COMPETITION

The Vehicle Security Committee of the Road Haulage Association met on 17th January and decided to set up a sub-committee of members representing major haulage and motoring interests, as well as experts in mechanical engineering, to test and examine the many and varied devices submitted.

These number some 60 different examples and variations from a total of 40 competitors, many of whom are private inventors not connected with any well-known manufacturing concerns. Improvements and modifications of devices already on the market are also competing.

BURGOT'S LIVERPOOL CENTRAL STATION

Following the success of their London Central Station, Burgot Rentals Ltd. are shortly to begin operations in Liverpool. The new central station will be at 9 Seymour Street, which will be the core of an inner security area, connected by multiple cables to the G.P.O. system with a direct line to Police Headquarters. The station will be able to handle 108 incoming signals and Burgot devices will cover every conceivable form of attack and risk on commercial and industrial premises.

The whole of the system is designed to "Fail to Safety" and to be completely independent of mains failures or power cuts. Attempts to interfere with the telephone circuits will cause an alarm. During the hours of darkness, weekends, and holiday periods, the control room will be cut off from the rest of the building, and the operator will be provided with means of summoning help in the case of sickness or attack. Nine chief constables are expected to attend the opening ceremony on 8th February by the chairman of Liverpool watch committee.

S.A. "BEAT THE BURGLAR" EXHIBITION

An exhibition aimed at bringing home to the man in the street the meaning of security as it affects his own home has been arousing great public interest in Johannesburg. Staged at the Orrco Theatre by Chubb & Son's Lock & Safe Co. (S.A.) (Pty.) Ltd., in conjunction with Automatic Burglar Alarms

(Pty.) Ltd., of Johannesburg, the exhibition displayed as main features: locks and locking devices, burglar alarms and fire resisting equipment for use in the average home. Public attendance was far higher than the sponsors had expected and the exhibition has been an unqualified success.

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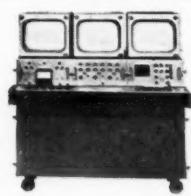
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Personalia



SECURICOR'S MANAGING DIRECTOR

Mr. Keith Erskine recently took over the appointment of Managing Director, Securicor Limited. A Westminster scholar, Mr. Erskine served with the 8th Indian Division during the last war and in Africa and Italy. He was twice mentioned in despatches.

He is Chairman of the Metal Closures Group, a Director of the London Board of the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company, senior partner of Hextall, Erskine & Co., and Deputy Chairman of Associated Hotels Ltd.

Technical Information

NEW ARMOURED BULLION VEHICLE

A new armoured vehicle capable of carrying £2,000,000 in cash was demonstrated to the Press and those directly interested in bullion security at Beckenham on 11th January by Armourspeed Ltd.

The Armourspeed, which can be adapted to individual needs, including mounting on a railway chassis if required, consists of three bullet-proof compartments clad in a special oxy-acetylene resistant and completely bullet-proof steel. The standard model has a 4-litre petrol/diesel power unit mounted on a 2-ton Austin forward control chassis with heavy duty bumper springs and shock absorbers. Bullet-proof Triplex windows are fitted throughout with one-way vision windows at rear. Both engine and radiator are fully protected. The interior, which has light, fan and heater, is ventilated by roof vents which, in attack, can be automatically sealed off.

Death of Mr. F. R. Gray, M.B.E.

The premature death at the age of 45 on 2nd January of Mr. F. R. Gray, Chief Constable of Salford, is a tragic loss to the Force which he personally reorganised on the opening of new Headquarters in 1957.

Mr. Gray, who was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, joined the Metropolitan Police in 1937 and was selected for training at the Hendon Police College. During the war he served in the army and reached the rank of Captain. In 1948 he was appointed to the directing staff of the Police College and in 1952 became Commander of No. 2 District Training Centre. After returning to the Metropolitan Police as Grade 1 Superintendent in 1955, he was in the same year appointed Assistant Chief Constable of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It was in 1956 that he came to Salford where he introduced motorists' advisory patrols, an advanced driving course for private motorists, and a permanent crime prevention bureau. In 1955 he was appointed M.B.E.

The funeral was attended by 26 Chief Constables and Sir Charles Martin, H.M. Inspector of Constabulary.

Hinges, locks, fuel tank, batteries and electrical cables are all concealed, and communication between compartments is by speaking tube only.

The standard Armourspeed costs £3,698 4s. 6d., ex works, and carries substantial insurance benefits.

The Electro Dial

Code Designs Ltd., of London, are putting on the market the Electro Dial, an ingenious electrical locking



*The
Armourspeed,
the new
bullet-proof
armourplated
bullion carrying
vehicle, made
its first public
showing on
11th January.*

Security Gazette

DEPUTY CHIEF AT YORK

The appointment has been made of Chief Inspector R. E. Rowbottom, M.B.E., of Southport Police, as Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable of the York Force. After war service in the R.A., he became head of the Trieste civil and military police. Mr. Rowbottom was seconded to Cyprus in 1955 as assistant Chief Constable and gained the Queen's Police Medal.

Sergeant to Chief Constable

Mr. Albert Harry Baker, aged 48, an ex-Birmingham City Police sergeant, has been appointed Chief Constable of the Falkland Islands.

He retired from the Birmingham Force last April, after 25 years' service, to become licensee of an hotel on the Broads, near Great Yarmouth. During his service he was complimented or rewarded by the Watch Committee on 14 occasions.

Mr. Baker starts his journey to the South Atlantic islands in April with his wife. "Although the initial appointment is for three years, I hope that I will spend much longer there," he has said.

switch operated by the dial knob in a combination of numbers. The device, which is keyless and tumblerless, and is claimed to be pick proof, has a very wide range of security applications. It can be used on vending machines, in factories to control all doors and windows, or to control equipment and machinery through a multi-function unit. The combination can be easily changed in a few minutes to any one of 1,000 combinations by any authorised person.

See p. 47: "Development of Modern Locks", for a topical application of this principle in safes, etc.

E.C.S. TAKE TIME OFF YOUR MIND

with
the
Watch-
man's
Portable
Clock

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No worries about whether a systematic patrol is being carried out on time with the E.C.S. Watchman's Portable Clock. This simple system ensures that personnel are alert and time-conscious. Numbered keys are installed at strategic points. As the patrol visits each point he turns the appropriate key in his portable Watchman's Clock. The time and the number of the station checked is automatically recorded, and cannot be tampered with as the clock can only be opened by a master key.

Tamper Proof Identity Cards

From Photome Ltd., sole British agents for the American manufacturers, Plasticmaster Corp., comes welcome news for those with staff security identification problems. Two laminating equipments are at present available. One non-automatic machine will produce a maximum of eight tamper-proof identity cards every four minutes. The other, a continuous laminator, will produce 900 embossed cards per hour. Polyester is used for the cards and in the laminating cycle the plastic material is fused into the paper of the actual identity document. If anyone tries to remove the paper insert the lamination when opened (with considerable effort) will split the paper insert in two.

February, 1961

The simple to use identity card laminating equipment from PHOTOME. This is already in use with the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority and H.M. Stationery Office.

for full details and literature write to
English Clock Systems
179-185 GREAT PORTLAND ST.
LONDON, W.1. LANGHAM 7226
Branch offices in
Birmingham, Manchester,
Leeds, Glasgow, Belfast.

A branch of the Clock and Watch Division of SMITHS

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Write for full details to:
HARTWOOD ALARMS LTD.
(DEPT. SG.1.)
177-9 Golders Green Road, LONDON, N.W.11.
Speedwell 9861

The Hartwood Alarm protects private and commercial vehicle users from the ever-increasing thefts of vehicles (petrol & diesel) and their valuable contents.

The Hartwood System. A switch is fitted to each door, the boot and bonnet. By turning a key in an external control as you leave your vehicle, the alarm is brought into silent action. At the same time, your vehicle is effectively immobilised by the breaking of the ignition circuit. Any intruder attempting to enter the vehicle, immediately sets off the alarm which can only be stopped by the authorised key holder.

An exclusive key which cannot be duplicated operates the system. In case of loss,

A practical exercise in removing debris prior to rescue work.

CREATING EFFICIENT CIVIL DEFENCE

Specialist Role of the Police Force

By Gerald W. Drewitt, M.B.E., B.E.M.

President of the Institute of Civil Defence

WITH the coming of the Second World War a fourth arm was added to the three traditional military services, and now, with the great dangers of the H-bomb age upon us, Civil Defence has assumed a role fully as important as those of the Royal Navy, the Army, and the Royal Air Force.

It is a defensive task which imposes immense responsibility upon industrial managements, security officers, and the police and fire services. One article cannot possibly survey the whole range of civil defence functions or give readers a full indication of the duties the threat of nuclear warfare poses for the peace-time forces of law and order. These will be covered in further articles. But in this contribution I think it would be of value to face the development of the present structure of defence.

Historical Background

The first attack by hostile aircraft on this country was on Christmas Eve, 1914, when a single German aircraft dropped a bomb in the Dover area. This new danger to the civil population was increased by sporadic air attacks which aroused a nervousness verging at times in panic and a demand for some warning system and shelters. In the then very rural areas, the writer recalls, the night time stillness was disturbed by the noisy protests of the pheasants as they flew from their roosts some half an hour before a "Zepp" or a plane reached the area.

During the First World War just over 100 bombing raids took place on this country, and in dropping some 300 tons of bombs, aircraft caused nearly 5,000 casualties, of which almost a third were fatal.

In 1921 the Committee of Imperial Defence asked the Service Chiefs and experts to report on possible future attacks on the U.K. An A.R.P. Sub-Committee was set up, and in 1933 Major General Pritchard was appointed Air Raid Commandant designate.

Wing Commander John Hodson had shown a great interest in the civilian side of defence as Assistant Secretary to the Imperial Defence Committee. He was appointed to take charge of the A.R.P. Department at the Home Office in 1935, became Inspector-General in 1938, and Director-General in 1948.

To this man A.R.P., as it was known until late 1940 when the more general title of Civil Defence was adopted, owes so much for his leadership and inspiration.

The A.R.P. Act of 1937 called on local authorities to submit their schemes. The Home Secretary made an appeal for volunteers in March, 1938, and within two months 400,000 of the million asked for had enrolled. The Munich crisis had the effect of seeing some 1,140,000 volunteers



enrol—"twice the strength of the three armed services together".

But civil defence as a service quickly came to an end after V.E. Day in 1945, the employment of whole-time volunteers being terminated on 1st July. Even so, the Government recognised the necessity of maintaining a structure of civil defence organisation and, as international tensions developed in the decade after 1945, put into effect measures to give the nation an efficient system of protection.

Post-War Reorganisation

The Civil Defence Act of 1948 was an enabling Act by which the C.D. Corps came into being, organised generally on the lines of the previous set-up. Local authorities were again made responsible for carrying out certain requirements. Counties and county boroughs were to establish divisions of the corps under general plans and draft regulations. Boroughs, urban and rural districts were arranged into sub-divisions. No fixed size has been laid down for an area or the strength of a division or sub-division but a war establishment figure has been worked out for each area.

Except for London and Scotland each division, or sub-division is organised into sections applicable to the nature of the duties involved—Wardens, Headquarters, Rescue, Ambulance and First Aid, and Welfare. Some of these sections are sub-divided, e.g. Headquarters Section into Intelligence and Operations, Signals, or Scientific and Reconnaissance.

Revised plans for the hospital services include a decision to establish Forward Medical Aid Units to act as temporary half-way holding units at which ambulances can off-load suitable casualties.

The Industrial Side

Industrial Civil Defence really commenced when the Home Office issued its first C.D. Industrial Bulletin in May, 1951. Up to the end of 1952 there was no separate organisation for industrial C.D. units; there was nothing comparable to the C.D. Corps or its allied services, e.g. The National Hospital Reserve, or the Auxiliary Fire Service. In December, 1952, the Industrial CD Service was inaugurated whereby units could be formed in factories and installations. These units can have their own uniforms and organisation, and work alongside the units of the Corps. Industrial C.D. differs from the Corps in its sectional organisation. Industry does not need the elaborate control of the outside civilian organisation and already usually possesses welfare and first-aid officers of its own which can take in defence duties. The rescue and wardens sections do, however, follow the Corps pattern.

Present Strengths

It has taken much time and publicity to build up the Corps in recent years. Volunteers tend to come forward only at times of obvious crisis. But already there exists a sound core of personnel. On 30th September, 1960, the strength of the Corps in England and Wales was 319,592 and of the Industrial C.D. Service, 178,053. The Auxiliary Fire Service numbered 18,761; the Special Constabulary, 48,008 men and 942 women; and the National Service Reserve, 56,401.

In charge of the national organisation is the Inspector General, Lt.-Gen. Sir William H. Stratton, K.C.B. Under him come 10 Regional Directors and a Director for Wales. Scottish civil defence comes under the Scottish Home Department.

A training system has been established with four main centres: the Civil Defence Staff College at Sunningdale Park, Berkshire, and three training schools at Falfield, Gloucestershire; Easingwold, Yorkshire; and Taymouth Castle, Perthshire.

Function of the Experts

Despite efforts by the central and local authorities, it is probably true to say that the existing C.D. organisation, at least from the point of view of strength, is too weak to really match up to potential demands on it. It will take many months of intensive exercising and training and much encouragement of recruitment before a machine is created which can confidently face up to large-scale nuclear destruction.

But this is the reason why the police, fire services, and security departments of big firms possess a vital C.D. importance. They are the key factors in the C.D. structure: in time of emergency they will have—as they did in the last war—vital functions and it is essential that they be as highly trained as possible if they are to hold together the remaining limbs of the organisation in an emergency.

Police Responsibilities

In war, the police, apart from continuing to be responsible for the maintenance of law and order, the control of traffic, the control of aliens, and the giving of general assistance and guidance to members of the public, will also be responsible for certain specific tasks. These are:

- (a) Taking special measures to maintain internal security.
- (b) Assisting in the control of the evacuation of the civil population.
- (c) Reconnaissance of roads immediately after an attack to determine the extent of debris and radiation.
- (d) Assisting in the control of the homeless.
- (e) Assisting in public control in the fall-out areas, and in operating in the highly radioactive area surrounding the axis of the radioactive plume.

About one-third of the strength of the police forces in the country will be organised in police mobile columns. These columns will be stationed at places away from areas likely to be attacked and they will be available for the reinforcement of local forces or for special tasks. Each column will consist of about 120 police officers organised into small parties.

Under the Civil Defence (Police) (Training) Regulations, 1950, the function of training the Police and Special Constabulary in Civil Defence has been made a function of each Police Authority.

Arrangements have been made for all the police recruits to receive a basic training in Civil Defence as part of their initial instruction at Police Training Centres. At the same time, the regular members of Police Forces are also being given instruction in Civil Defence. The Special Constabulary would be available to assist the regular police force.

To the Chief Constables fall a particularly onerous duty. Outside the Metropolitan area they will be the chief officers of the warden sections. (Within the Metropolitan



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Police area, local authorities have been asked to select suitable individuals with good warden experience as the chief officers.) And as definition of their tasks one cannot do better than refer to a definition of the warden himself: "a responsible and reliable member of the public who will undertake to advise and help his fellow citizens . . . in all the risks and calamities which might follow from air attack and who will form a link between them and the authorities for reporting air raid damage and calling aid when required".

Such were the words used in a handbook of 1938, but in 1961 to them must be added: "it is abundantly clear that the responsibilities are far beyond any previously borne and probably unmatched in any other section of the Corps".

I have no doubt that many Chief Constables and police officers are all too conscious of the weakness of the present C.D. organisation in its civilian aspects. They are usually realistic men! Yet I am also sure that a recognition of this situation makes them all the keener to build up the Police Forces a hard core of skilled C.D. workers. Overall the co-operation between the C.D. directorate and the police is good and many exercises held in recent months have gone far to put that relationship on a sound practical basis. At the same time it has to be appreciated that the Police Forces are already heavily burdened with their normal duties, especially on the crime and traffic sides. While this emphasises in yet another form the necessity of possessing a contented and well-manned body of police officers, it also underlines the need for building up industrial reinforcements.

As in crime prevention, so in civil defence, the police and industry have to learn to work together. How this can be done through the medium of security departments will be examined in a second article.

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"Impregnable" Padlocks

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN LOCKS

By E. S. Barham

Though lock design is a specialist craft, it is the responsibility of security officers and managements to understand how the proper selection of locks is essential to property protection.

"**W**HICH came first, the chicken or the egg?" Whilst the answer to this question may be argued by the more erudite, the answer to the question "Which came first, the thief or the lock?" is apparent. Had man not broken the eighth and tenth Commandments, the necessity for locks would not have arisen.

Proof of their antiquity has been furnished by the discovery of a wooden lock some 4,000 years old which came, apparently, from one of the doors of the ruined palace of Khorsabad, near Nineveh.

The early Greeks employed a sliding bolt in their locks, securing it by threading a rope through a hole and tying an intricate knot. Since only the owner could tie and retie the knot in exactly the same pattern, unauthorised entry could be detected easily. Security in this era depended upon the thief's willingness to risk discovery and the certain punishment of death! Today an offender may be put on probation!

Metal locks, however, came into being with the Romans, who used iron for the bodies of the locks and bronze for the keys. As a result, the locks themselves corroded and disintegrated, leaving no examples for future observation; only the bronze keys remained. From these it has been learned that the Romans were the first to use wards or obstacles in the

keyholes to prevent any but the correctly shaped key to move the bolt.

The history of what may be called modern locks began in the 18th century when French locksmiths employed lever tumblers in their locks. In 1778, Robert Barron, an Englishman, improved the construction by attaching a "stop" on the bolt and devising a slotted lever tumbler that had to be raised an exact height before the stop could pass through the slot.

Then, in 1861, Linus Yale, Junior, of the U.S.A., took the process a stage further with his invention of the pin tumbler lock, a step which revolutionised the lock industry.

Main Types

Locks may be classified as (a) rim locks and (b) mortise locks. In the former, the lock is screwed to the face or surface of the door; a mortise lock, on the other hand, is secured inside the body of the door.

The main objection to rim locks is that the lock and the box staple into which the bolt of the lock shoots, are secured by screws which, under pressure and leverage, will fail to hold either the lock or the staple. Although the weakness may be to some extent overcome by the fitting of a steel strap over lock and staple, this does not provide the same degree of security as a good mortise lock.

Mortise locks, moreover, have now gained another useful feature by the insertion of two hardened steel rollers into the bolt of the lock. This device frustrates any attempt to cut through

This second article on the place of locks in security is contributed by the Chief Burglary Surveyor of the Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd.

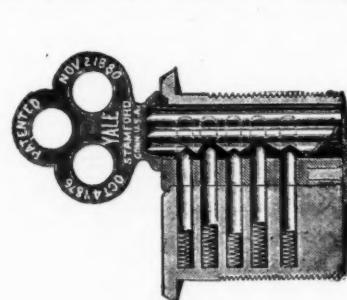
the bolt with a hacksaw and is particularly welcome in the case of double doors where there is an appreciable and dangerous gap between the meeting edges when the doors are closed. Before the introduction of these steel rollers, it was necessary to "pack" the hinges of the doors to prevent the insertion of a saw or file. But I should point out, of course, that it is dangerous to allow any appreciable gap even when these modern locks are used, for it enables an intruder to use powerful levering instruments which may destroy the surrounds of the lock and nullify its own merits.

The development of the security provided by locks has been made necessary by reason of the increased knowledge and skill of the burglar. Unfortunately, there are still a number of inferior, if not useless, locks on the market which property owners continue to instal.

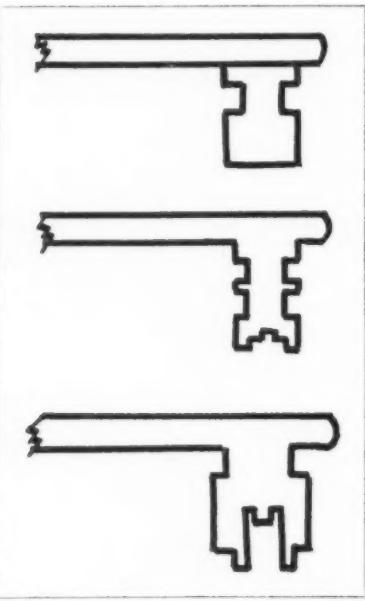
Although much has been done to educate the public in the matter of what is and what is not a good lock, there is still a large degree of ignorance. As an example, the writer knows of an instance where, when the burglary insurance surveyor criticised a safe at a client's premises, he was told with pride, "This safe has been in the firm for nearly 100 years"!

Five-lever Advance

It was following upon the immediate post-war years that the greatest advance in lock security was witnessed and at this point it is interesting to note that, up to the time of the last war, it was a recognised practice for a burglary insurance surveyor to recommend a four-lever mortise lock. Since those days it has been discovered that it was necessary for a burglar to possess but 20-odd different keys for him to find one capable of operating any four-lever lock. It was from that startling and disconcerting knowledge that it became evident that this type of lock could no longer be accepted as a means of security. As a result, a well-known lock manufacturer no longer produces a mortise lock with less than five levers. For the benefit of those readers who may wonder why that extra lever should be of such importance, it should be noted that, if a person wishes to effect an illegal entry into a building by the use of a false key, it is necessary for him to carry a few hundred keys to have even



A Yale pin tumbler lock and corrugated key, and left, Linus Yale, Junior, who, in 1861, revolutionized the lock industry.



Top: Security of lock with this type of key is practically non-existent. Centre: Key of 4-lever lock giving little security, and Bottom: Key of modern lock. Security good.

a slight chance of finding one to operate a lock with five or more levers.

Close-shackle Padlocks

I should like at this point to bring in a reference to padlocks, because there are both some very poor specimens to be obtained, while equally, some really excellent types are available. In brief, a good padlock should be what is known as the close-shackle pattern. With this the shackle fits snugly through the staple of the locking bar, thereby allowing no room for the insertion of a tool with which to attempt forcing by a twisting movement. In addition to this feature a satisfactory padlock must have a hardened shackle to withstand the use of a hacksaw. Here, also, as in the case of locks, the number of levers for the key operation is of importance.

Combination Locks

The term "lock" is a very comprehensive one, ranging from the furniture or cupboard lock to the most intricate mechanism forming the integral and vital part of a strong room door.

Most readers will be familiar with combination locks on safes. One of the advantages, at times overlooked, is that with such a lock there is no keyhole to provide a ready-made

opening for the insertion of an explosive by an intruder intending to blow open the safe.

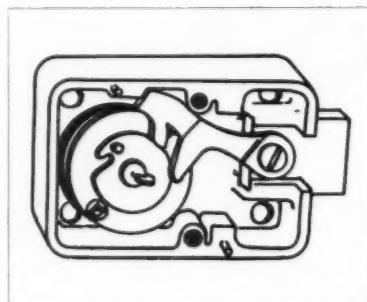
The operation of the combination lock depends upon the manipulation of a series of interlocking connections to fall into place according to a pre-arranged sequence. It is in itself an ingenious device and since it would normally take a long time for even an experienced thief to uncover the sequence by trial and error—there can be many thousands of combinations—the "key" to the safe rests only in the mind of the person who has set the combination.

The principle has now been taken to a further stage of development with the introduction of electrical points within the combination mechanism. In a typical combination each of four wheels has its own contact point. The dialing of the numbers of the combination in turn brings the first three points into contact and, in the case of the fourth number, completes the circuit, enabling the switch to operate. With this type of combination the series of numbers has to be set in a separate operation, but it eliminates the use of tumblers.

No doubt the use of electrical contacts will be given more study. (I think, incidentally, it is erroneous to describe these electrically-operated mechanisms as of "electronic" type: so far as I know, there is no "electronic" lock in existence.) It may be possible to integrate combination locks into other protective or alarm systems, but at the moment existing forms of manual or electrical combinations give excellent and adequate protection.

During the last 30-odd years the writer has been afforded a good opportunity to discover the amount of security provided by locks of all types and at times the experience has been painful.

A good modern lock may well be "unpickable", but even so, it can be strained or otherwise damaged by an attempt to open it with a false key, or a broken section of such a key



A view of working parts of a Chubb 3-number keyless combination lock.

may be left in the lock, thereby causing inconvenience to the person on whose premises the attempted entry is made. Devices to reduce this risk are being studied at the moment.

It will be appreciated that each new lock produced and put on the market is available to members of the burglars' "fraternity" for careful investigation. Any weakness in design will at once be discovered and the knowledge gained put to use. A fact not widely known is that criminals have been known to obtain jobs with lock and safe manufacturers for the express purpose of studying modern techniques of protection.



Cut-away illustration showing the inside mechanism of the Electro Dial.

But these individuals belong to an élite among thieves. In general the provision of a good lock is the first and usually the best defence against the intruder. That is why the owner of property or the security officer should make it a rule to consult a reputable lock firm before spending money. The difference between the sound and the unsound lock in price is often small: but the difference in security can mean proper safeguarding and none at all.

More Cash for Police Buildings

Emphasising the need to give police Forces good offices and houses, Mr. R. A. Butler said at Stevenage last month that over £4,500,000 is to be spent on operational buildings in 1961-62, as against £3,000,000 in the present year and £1,500,000 in 1959-60.

CRIME REVIEW

The main feature of last month's record was the killing of a bus guard in the cash-ram reported below—the first time, it is believed, such a tragedy has happened in a street raid. Coming after the Worthing bank raid killing, it again indicates how violence has crept into crime and underlines the need for secure cash transport methods. The other reports show the general spread of recent incidents.

DOUBLE-DECKER BUS LATEST CASH TARGET Vicious Attack on Employees

That size of the cash-carrying vehicle in itself represents no obstacle to a successful ambush is shown by the case of the London double-decker bus. Ironically bearing the sign "Private", it was rammed by a heavy diesel lorry as it carried £9,000 in wages from a bank to Merton garage.

Four masked men from a following vehicle then violently attacked the three London Transport employees inside with iron bars and made off.

One of the employees was rendered unconscious with a fractured skull and was taken to hospital where he subsequently died.

£8,000 HAUL DESPITE BANK ALARM

Raiders at the Northfield Avenue Branch of the Westminster Bank, West Ealing, on the night of 8th January, got away with £8,000. Having cut through a 12 in. thick strong room door with oxy-acetylene equipment which they left on the premises, the thieves broke into the safe which was fitted with a pressure sensitive device to give an alarm immediately it was opened. It is not certain whether the alarm was faulty or failed to function, though a technical expert informs the *Gazette* that the alarm may have functioned but too late in the proceedings to prevent the getaway of the criminals.

The raid follows an earlier attempt to rob the Bank last September when the bandits were disturbed and left empty handed.

LLOYDS BANK RAID

Over the weekend of 14th January, thieves forced their way into the strong room of the Piercfield Road, Four Elms Road corner branch of Lloyds Bank in Cardiff, and stole £6,000. By-passing the massive iron door of the strong room, which is visible from the street, they made a hole big enough for a man to pass through in a side door and blew the safe open with explosives.

Bank Raid Foiled

Raiders at Barclays Bank, Enfield Green, Egham, early last month failed to cut through the strong room door with oxy-acetylene apparatus. The raid followed on the mysterious visit before Christmas of a man who may have been a "bogus" surveyor, to a property close to the Bank.

CO-OP MANAGER KIDNAPPED £1,300 Stolen

On 21st January, Mr. Robert Parkes, a London Co-operative Society dairy manager, was kidnapped by a gang, bundled into a car and driven about six miles to his office, where, with his key, the bandits opened the safe and stole £1,300.

£4,000 Lost in Enfield Ram

On 13th January masked bandits snatched £4,000 in wages from two employees of Scripto-Pens Ltd., at the corner of Goldsdown Road, Enfield, after ramming the firm's van with their car. The van driver, Mr. Bill Austin, who refused to stop, despite being frequently "coshed", continued down Goldsdown Road, while his companion in the van, Mr. Victor Hill, snatched up a bag containing £100 and ran to a nearby factory to

give the alarm. People from nearby houses ran out to help and managed to smash the window of the bandits' car before it drove off.

£1,000 Wage Grab

On 19th January two bandits attacked two employees of a T.V. Rental firm in New Cavendish Street, Marylebone, and made off with £1,000. The victims, Mr. Kenneth Cook, manager, and Mrs. Jean Ward, clerk, had just returned from the bank when the bandits pounced.

£3,000 Wages Stolen

The New Year of crime began at 3.30 a.m. on 1st January when six masked men grabbed from two cashiers the wages of the night staff of Odhams Press, Longacre, E.C. Although the men carried coshes there was no violence.

£5,000 POST OFFICE RAID

Following a fruitless raid on the post office at Portishead, Somerset, during the weekend of 8th January, a gelignite gang got £5,000 in cash and securities from a safe at Henleaze post office, Bristol. The thieves used jemmies to get through the front door of the post office, then blasted the door off a wall safe.

WORKSOP MAILBAG SNATCH

The theft on 14th January of a mail bag containing about £200 from an unattended mail van at Worksop, led to the issuing by the Nottinghamshire police of the description of a youth of medium height and slim build, wearing a dark suit and white shirt. The youth was seen to open the rear doors of the van, snatch a mail bag and run off into the fog. An official said later that the locking device on the van doors was faulty.

DARING BIRMINGHAM HAUL

On 29th December, the only day in the year when the burglar alarm through an electrical fault was not functioning, a thief broke into Tranter's jeweller's shop at Kingstanding, and took £2,000 worth of selected rings, watches, and lighters. The thief, who must have been a very cool customer, threw a brick through the glass door and spent a full 15 minutes in the shop choosing his loot, in full view of the well-lighted pavement. In a previous raid last September on the same shop, thieves smashed a glass window and stole £250 worth of wrist watches.

NOTTS "AMATEUR" RAIDS

A gang of safe blowers took £150 from a safe at the Bristol Sugar Corporation factory at Newark during the night of 4th January. In blowing the safe the gang wrecked part of the office in which they stood.

The methods of this gang have led the Nottingham police to believe that they are "amateurs", and they may well be the criminals also responsible for an attempt to steal £100,000 from a Mansfield Bank two weeks earlier and for the theft from a miners' club at Calverton, Nottinghamshire, of £1,000 on 3rd January.

£12,000 FASHION HAUL

A lorry belonging to the haulage firm of Packets of Nottingham, carrying a load of special fabrics and silks valued at £12,000 was stolen on 23rd January while it was on its way to various fashion houses in the West End. The van was stolen during a change over of drivers.

REDUCING FIRE LOSS BY SALVAGE

Vital Work of a Specialist Corps

By A. S. Pratten, O.B.E., G.M.

Chief Officer of the London Salvage Corps

FIRE causes tremendous monetary loss, hardship, and inconvenience, partly because of the burning of material and partly because of the consequence of this burning and the measures which have to be taken to deal with the fires. These consequential effects include the damage or destruction by water, smoke, steam, heat, falling debris and dirt, the exposure to weather following fire damage to buildings, and the deterioration of contents before they can be dealt with. Authoritative estimates of the aggregated costs of these effects show that they are greater than those resulting from burning alone.

But a substantial proportion of the potential loss and inconvenience arising from the aftermath of fire can be prevented by the rapid implementation of skilled measures. They are the specialist responsibility of the insurance Salvage Corps of London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, and, within the limits of their resources, having regard to their primary obligations, of many public fire brigades. Yet few members of the public realise the character of the Salvage Corps or the invaluable work they perform in assisting property owners.

Insurance Backing

The London Salvage Corps, with which this article is concerned, is maintained and administered by fire insurance offices carrying on business in the London area. It was formed in 1866 when the insurance companies, which for the previous 150 years or so had maintained the public fire service for the London area, decided they could no longer continue to meet this responsibility. Following the passing of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade Act, 1865, the companies handed over their fire stations, appliances, and personnel to the Metropolitan Board of Works, the local authority in London at that time, but decided to establish the Corps for the purpose of continuing the salvage work, and other duties on behalf of the companies, which had hitherto been carried out by the insurance fire brigades. The

finance necessary to maintain the Corps is obtained entirely from the fire insurance companies—tariff and independent—and Lloyd's underwriters. No charges are levied on members of the public for services of the corps at fires.

Integrity of Service

At the present time the operational staff consists of approximately 90 officers and men, distributed over two stations—one north of the Thames and one to the south. When attending fires they wear a traditional type of fire helmet, long waterproof coats, rubber thigh boots, and belts with axes and handlamps, and as fire salvage work is arduous and has often to be continued over long periods, they have to be physically fit and enthusiastic in their job. Particular care is paid to the integrity of men employed by the Corps, as they are often engaged in the handling of valuable property and are frequently left in charge of premises.

The Corps has 11 motor vehicles—seven salvage tenders (four of which are about to be equipped with two-way radio), two light vans, and two staff cars. There are also four portable pumps for removing water from flooded premises. The salvage tenders look very much like fire brigade engines, in that they are painted red, and have loud ringing bells and twin amber flashing lights to facilitate progress through traffic en route to fires.

Included in the equipment carried in salvage tenders are: waterproof sheets (of which a stock of about 1,000 is maintained by the Corps), stanchions for slinging the sheets, brooms, squeegees, mops, scoops, buckets, valve keys, augers, saws, hammers, spanners and other tools of various kinds, drain rods, drain guards, ladders, lamps, sawdust, axes, chamois leathers, nails, oil, oiling brushes and pressure pumps, padlocks and fittings, roofing felt, cordage and spare sprinkler heads. Additional equipment is held at the stations ready for immediate despatch when required.

The area covered by the Corps in-



cludes the whole of the districts served by the London Fire Brigade, the Croydon, East Ham, West Ham and Middlesex Fire Brigades, together with the "metropolitan" divisions, i.e. the divisions nearest to London, of the Essex, Kent, and Surrey Fire Brigades, and certain districts served by the Hertfordshire Fire Brigade. The Corps thus serves a total area of approximately 1,000 square miles, and a population of 8,000,000. It works in close co-operation with these nine fire brigades from whom it receives details of fire calls.

An immediate turn-out is made to all calls to the central London area and also to special risks such as docks, departmental stores, and large warehouses beyond this area, while in the case of each other fire in the outer districts it is the general practice to wait for details from the fire brigade of the nature of the fire, the property involved, and the method of extinction being employed. As most first-attendance fire engines are now fitted with wireless transmitters, this information is usually obtained within a very few minutes after receipt of the fire call.

About 3,000 calls are attended by the Corps every year.

Work at Fire Scenes

On arriving at a fire the first consideration of the Corps is usually the prevention of any avoidable water damage. The methods employed vary according to the extent and location of the fire, but as a general rule the work includes moving and covering contents with waterproof sheets; controlling surface water by damming doorways, lift shafts, and sections of floor spaces to prevent flooding of otherwise unaffected parts; keeping internal and external drains clear of debris; diverting water from the premises by means of sheets slung from fixings in walls or specially designed stanchions; making gang-

ways in debris to drain off water; clearing water from floors by using brooms, squeegees, and scoops; and pumping out basements, machine pits, and lift wells. It may also be necessary to protect openings to adjacent premises if roadways or yards become flooded during the fire-fighting or if there is a risk of spray from the jets entering open windows.

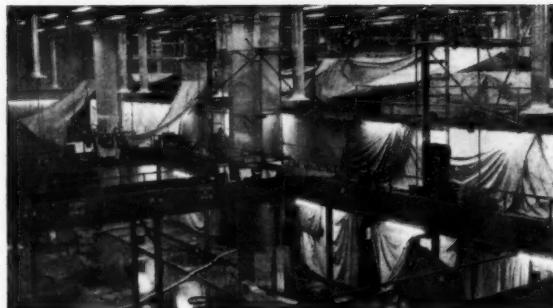
As soon as the senior fire officer present is satisfied that the fire situation permits, the premises are thoroughly ventilated and large electric fans, powered by mobile generators, may be used to remove smoke, steam and heat, which if not dispersed could cause considerable damage to contents such as foodstuffs, textiles and metal articles, and to decorations.

Follow-up Action

When the fire is under control and the preventive salvage work has been completed, attention is directed to drying out the premises and, in appropriate cases the treatment or moving of contents, so as to limit as far as possible the deterioration which might take place and to facilitate the re-occupation of premises and resumption of business. After all surface water has been cleared, sawdust is often used to soak up residual moisture, and drying out may be accelerated by the removal of saturated debris, by ventilation, and by the use of heating systems on the premises and the Corps' portable heating apparatus. Carpets are taken up; machinery and other metal goods, such as tools and cutlery, are dried and oiled to prevent rusting (which may be brought about not only by direct water damage but also by condensation of steam, even at a distance from the seat of the fire); and furniture is cleaned and dried. Considerable damage may also be prevented by examining and removing wet packing and wrappings. The smell of smoke is removed or reduced by a technique which includes the use of deodorising chemicals.

If damage has been caused to the roof, skylights or windows, the possi-

In only partly damaged premises prompt use of nylon sheets prevents deterioration of valuable machinery.



bility of subsequent damage to the contents and building fabric has to be borne in mind. If the damage to the roof is extensive, protection is provided by the use of heavy tarpaulins, but it is first necessary to clear the roof and gutters of loose slates and to knock down protruding nails. A temporary framework is sometimes improvised by means of steel scaffolding. Small areas of roof damage, and skylights and windows above ground floor level, are covered with lighter materials, such as roofing felt.

Before leaving the scene of a fire, the Corps reinstates sprinkler systems which have operated and sees to it that the premises are secure or in the charge of the occupier or his representative. Where there is a risk of a secondary outbreak, and in the case of fires which are serious losses or of doubtful origin, and where premises cannot be made secure or left in the custody of an authorised person, a salvager remains on duty.

No Discrimination

The Corps investigates the causes of the fires which it attends and has personnel and facilities for taking and processing photographs of special features. Close collaboration is maintained with fire loss adjusters, with whom rests the ultimate responsibility for the recovery, safe custody and disposal of salvage.

At premises threatened with water damage due to sprinkler leakages, burst pipes, overflowing tanks and the like the Corps carries out work very similar to that which is undertaken at fires.

Fire salvage work is not only of importance to the insurance companies and underwriters, but it is of value and convenience to property owners and occupiers, because in addition to minimising the physical loss by fire, water, breakage, weather, etc., it enables business to be resumed and homes to be re-occupied much more quickly than would otherwise be the case.

One point should be emphasised. When responding to a fire call, the Corps does not discriminate between

insured and uninsured risks. Such salvage work as is practicable and necessary is tackled without regard to insurances and much valuable public service is given gratuitously to Government departments and uninsured parties.

PAY INCREASES FOR CHIEF FIRE OFFICERS

New scales affecting pay of Chief Officers agreed by the National Joint Council for Chief Officers of Local Authorities' Fire Brigades range from £75 on Grade 6 to £310 on Grade 1 as follows:

Grade	Minimum	Increments	Maximum
1	£2,100	x £65 (4)	to £2,360
2	£1,880	x £65 (4)	to £2,140
3	£1,660	x £65 (4)	to £1,920
4	£1,460	x £65 (4)	to £1,720
5	£1,260	x £55 (4)	to £1,480
6	£1,130	x £55 (4)	to £1,350

FIRE COMPETITIONS IN SOUTH WALES

The South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch of the Industrial Fire Protection Association announces that its annual Fire Competitions will be held on Saturday, 3rd June, at Guest Keen & Nettlefolds Sports Ground, Sloper Road, Cardiff.

The five events in these competitions, for which 15 trophies will be presented to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams in each event, are:

1. One man extinguisher drill.
2. Two men hydrant drill (wet).
3. Four men with officer i/c hydrant drill (wet).
4. Four men light trailer pump with dividing breeching (wet).
5. Five men with officer i/c large trailer pump drill (wet).

Closing date for entries is 10th April. Spectators are cordially invited to these competitions, and free admission tickets may be obtained on request from the Branch Secretary, F. E. Tribe, British Overseas Airways Corporation, Treforest Industrial Estate, Pontypridd, Glam.



Heavy tarpaulin sheets give overall protection to a fire damaged building and its valuable contents.

Fire Reports

THIRTY PUMPS IN 18-hr. TIMBER BLAZE Massive Fight for Essex Brigade

A SPECTACULAR and intense fire which broke out in a large timber stack at Abbey Road, Barking Creek, on 29th December, provided Essex County and neighbouring brigades with a major fire-fighting task. The flames engulfed the timber yard, and threatened an oil depot. No cause has yet been found, a spokesman for the firm, the Austin Hall Group, told the *Gazette*, though early Press reports suggested that children had been playing with a fire nearby. No estimate of the damage has yet been made.

A report received from Chief Fire Officer W. H. J. Benton, C.B.E., Essex County Brigade states:

Austins Joinery Works is situated near the western boundary of the Borough of Barking with Barking Creek to the west and south, Abbey Road to the east and to the north the premises of Denton Edwards Ltd., paint manufacturers. Also situated to the south are the premises of a timber importing company.

The total area of Austin's premises amounts to about 170,000 sq. ft., roughly rectangular in shape and divided across the middle by a single storey, steel framed joinery shop with unprotected internal columns, part brick, part concrete block walls and

an asbestos cement sheeted roof covering on light steel trussing.

Another building at right angles to and attached to the eastern end of the joinery shop also contained large stacks of planed timber.

A third building contained large stacks of finished joinery work.

A number of smaller buildings were situated at various points but were not appreciably affected by the fire. In the space between the finished joinery store and the joinery shop and extending westwards to the waterside is an open timber storage site of about 36,000 sq. ft. in area, which contained closely situated stacks of timber varying between 30 ft. and 60 ft. in height and stacked to within a few feet of the buildings previously described.

Well Alight

At about 1330 hrs. workmen returning from lunch observed smoke rising from the centre of the stacks and ran to investigate. They found one stack of timber well alight at between 10 and 20 ft. above ground level and, whilst one man ran to a telephone situated in a nearby engineer's workshop, the others got to work with one jet from an internal hydrant near the waterside.



A photograph of the fire at its height taken from the mud banks of the River Roding. Some idea of the intensity of the blaze can be gathered from this vivid picture.

The call was received at Barking Fire Station by fire telephone at 1344 hrs. and the pre-determined initial attendance of three pumping appliances immediately responded.

On arrival the Station Officer in charge of the first attendance surveyed the situation, ordered four jets to be got to work, two from the pump escape situated inside the main gate and fed from an internal hydrant and two from the pump, fed from two street hydrants outside. Realising that a serious fire situation was developing he passed an assistance message for 10 pumps and two turntable ladders.

Attacking the seat of the fire was extremely difficult due to the fire having started in the centre of the stacks, proceeding to burn outwards in all directions.

At 1440 hrs. the Regent Oil Company, whose storage tanks, seven in all varying in capacity from 2,500 to 129,000 gallons, were situated opposite Austin's on the west side of Barking Creek, reported that the tanks were becoming affected by the intense radiated heat and one pump was immediately despatched with a Station Officer in charge. On arrival he requested another pump and got to work with cooling jets. An indication of the radiated heat was the fact that paint on the tanks was blistered although over 100 yards away.

Four pumps in all were used to provide six cooling jets for the tanks at the oil depot, with one foam tender standing by.

At 1442 hrs. pumps were made up to 25 and hose-laying lorries up to three.

Critical Situation

At about 1530 hrs. the situation became critical with the fire threatening to spread through the main buildings to the east and involve the terraced houses in Abbey Road. It also threatened the joinery shop to the north and another open timber storage site covering an area of about 20,000 sq. ft. which would then endanger a paint manufacturing plant beyond.

As the water relays (four in all) improved the water supply position, the number of jets was gradually increased, positioned inside and on the roofs of surrounding buildings, and a determined stand by the branchmen prevented the fire from spreading beyond the perimeter of the open site with the exception of the finished

Cont. on p. 54

Security Gazette



This gadget saved a whole factory

This A.F.A. automatic fire detector, fitted years ago in an industrial client's storeroom and almost forgotten, dramatically came to life one night last month. It detected a small fire, called the Brigade automatically and probably saved the entire factory! A.F.A. protects hundreds of buildings and stops over fifty such fires every year. Please post the coupon below, or ring us at Larkswood 8373 or at our branch at Bristol (47898), Birmingham (Midland 5269), Edinburgh (Caledonian 5800), Glasgow (Douglas 1690), Harrogate (5262), Leicester (66990), Liverpool (Central 9653), or Manchester (Moss Side 4647).



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TAS/AF.181

NOTTINGHAM CHRISTMAS BLAZE

£100,000 Estimated Damage

Fire which broke out in the warehouse stores of Furse Wholesale Ltd., near the centre of Nottingham, on the night of 23rd December, caused extensive damage to stocks of cookers, refrigerators, and other domestic appliances valued at about £100,000.

The alarm was raised while the firm's Christmas party was in progress. This immediately broke up and the fire brigade was called. Within a very short time the whole of the warehouse and the firm's head office was blazing and people in nearby cottages had to be evacuated. The fire was fought by 50 firemen and 12 appliances for over three hours but, despite danger from ammonia fumes escaping from refrigerators, and overhead electric cables, no one suffered any injuries.

One reason was that the firm had practised fire drills and there was no panic.

Barking Timber Fire, cont. from p. 52
joinery store, one quarter of which was damaged by fire.

The remainder of the buildings were affected mainly by the intense radiated heat which provided a serious problem for some time and one turntable ladder monitor and two jets had to be concentrated on cooling a row of 17 terraced houses in Abbey Road for several hours.

The "fire surrounded" message was passed to Control at 2235 hrs. Operations continued throughout the night and all the next day to damp down the numerous pockets of fire and reduce the intense heat from the remains of approximately 5,000 standards of timber, 75 per cent of which was destroyed.

The "Stop message" was passed to Control at 0813 hrs. on the following day. The task of providing relief crews and appliances continued for four days, gradually reducing to five pumps on the fourth day, in order to maintain careful supervision over the cooling and removing of the vast quantity of hot ash and fire debris.

A total of 30 pumps, 3 hose laying lorries, 2 turntable ladders, 2 fire-boats and 3 emergency lighting units were used at the fire, and in addition 4 pumps and 1 foam tender were sent to the Regent Oil Company Depot. Appliances were supplied from the London, West Ham, East Ham, and Middlesex County Fire Brigades both for fire fighting and filling-in purposes.



Fire in a scrap yard at Dukinfield, Cheshire, on 27th November. The fire was aggravated by the presence of stacks of oil-soaked timber, seen here, blazing behind a roofless building. No cause has been found. Ten pumps were needed to fight the blaze which was made intense by the several hundred tons of close-packed wood.

50,000 FIRES BEGUN BY CHILDREN WITH MATCHES

Alarming figures were given on the fire danger of children with matches by Mr. W. L. Catchpole, Fire Manager of the Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd., in London last month. He quoted statistics compiled by the Joint Fire Research Organisation to assert that between 1954 and 1959 the number of fires caused by children using matches rose from 10,000 to 50,000.

In most cases the consequences were accidental, but he said the number of fires caused maliciously or by unruly children were increasing.

Qualifying Opinion

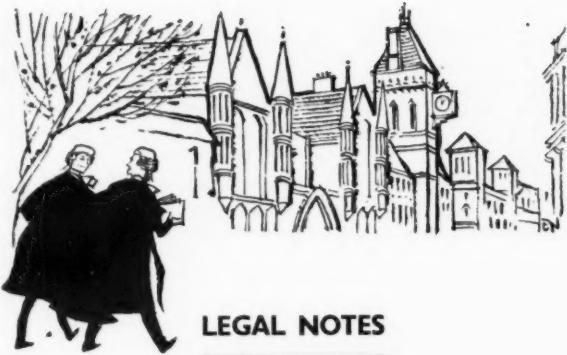
While the J.F.R.O. statistics must command attention, a qualifying view on the responsibility of carelessly discarded matches for fire outbreaks was expressed recently by Mr. H. Mason Bibby when he addressed the Industrial Fire Protection Association conference in London. He declared that a fire is seldom started by a match in a clean factory, office, or

warehouse. In considering, too, the parallel danger from smoking, he said that a lighted cigarette is really a very poor means of starting a fire, except where there is loose litter and a draught. "You can even extinguish a cigarette by throwing it into a dish of petrol," he said. Mr. Bibby considered that smoking had been unfairly blamed as a cause of fires for which no other cause had been found.

1960 FIRE LOSSES DECREASE?

Provisional figures of fire damage for 1960 may show a slight but encouraging decline against the £44,000,000 loss of 1959. Up to the end of November the figure was £39,660,000, and it is estimated that the total amount for the year will be about £41,000,000.

Though the first half of 1960 gave pessimistic evidence of a still higher level than 1959, the second half's results showed a welcome decrease.



LEGAL NOTES

Issues Involved in Telephone Tapping

By a Legal Correspondent

A point of primary interest to police and security officers is the admissibility and value of evidence gained by the interception of information through mechanical devices. Here a correspondent discusses the main issues raised by the increasing use of mechanised communication.

A NEWSPAPER reported recently that "to help detect malicious fire-callers, the Manchester Fire Brigade is tape-recording calls that come in". Both Press and public in this country are traditionally critical of the use by the police and other security services of such devices as telephone-tapping, tape recorders, concealed microphones, and the like.

The object of this article is to consider whether the use of these devices is lawful; if—or when—their use is unlawful, whether the evidence obtained is admissible; and if—or when—the evidence is admissible, what weight should be attached to it.

Kinds of "Tapping"

It is necessary first to distinguish between, on the one hand, telephone-tapping which involves interfering with the apparatus provided by the Post Office in a way that would be unlawful without the Department's consent and, on the other hand, telephone-tapping that involves no such interference. One example of the first kind is the secret attachment to a particular line of a device which records all the conversations passing along it; one example of the second is the overhearing of a conversation by a person using an extension telephone.

There is, as will be seen, an important distinction between the two processes. Both of them, however, and the other devices of recording and overhearing which have already been mentioned, involve in principle nothing more than what may loosely be called mechanical eavesdropping. The first question that has to be considered is whether such mechanical eavesdropping is as such in any way unlawful.

No Right to Privacy

As anyone who has been pursued by a newspaper reporter knows, there is in this country no legally enforceable right to privacy and the fact that the use of these devices necessarily involves some intrusion on the privacy of at least one of the people concerned is, therefore, of no significance at all to the lawyer.

In England and Wales (and it must be emphasised that this article is not concerned in any way with the law of Scotland), eavesdropping is not as such unlawful. The eavesdropper may in certain circumstances be brought before the court by virtue of the provisions of the Justices of the Peace Act, 1361, and required to enter into a recognizance to be of good behaviour; but this power is clearly of little application in the present context and it is scarcely conceivable that it would be used against even a private individual who made, for example, improper use of a party line in order to listen in to the telephone conversation of other people.

Nor, in law, can the fact that the eavesdropping is mechanical make any difference. The man who listens in to a private conversation with the aid of a concealed microphone is in principle in no different a position from the man who watches an incident taking place upon private property through a pair of binoculars or indeed an ordinary pair of spectacles.

It follows, therefore, that what has been called "mechanical eavesdropping" is not as such unlawful. It does not, of course, follow that it is necessarily in all cases lawful. Thus, the person who intercepts wireless messages transmitted by police or fire services infringes the terms of his wireless licence and is thereby guilty of an offence against the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1949.

Again, to take an example from one of the leading American cases on this subject, if the police were to fix a microphone on private property without the consent of the occupier, they would be guilty of a trespass. The illegality of the act has, however, nothing to do with the fact that it involves a mechanical device; the police officer is equally guilty of trespass if he goes into the house without authority in order to overhear a conversation himself.

Quite clearly, telephone-tapping in the second of the senses mentioned in the third paragraph of this article cannot ordinarily be in any way unlawful. Thus in the case of Dr. Fox in 1959 the police officer listened on an extension telephone with the consent of the subscriber. There is no doubt that the subscriber could equally well have consented to anyone else overhearing the conversation and (despite what was said inside and outside the House of Commons at the time) it would be preposterous to suggest that the police officer should have any lesser right than the private individual.

Use of G.P.O. Equipment

The position with regard to tapping which necessarily involves some tampering with the apparatus provided by the Post Office is, however, rather different. The subscriber himself obtains the apparatus in accordance with regulations which prohibit him from tampering with it without the permission of the Post Office; and, quite obviously, no one else (apart, of course, from the Post Office and its officials) has any better right than the subscriber. It is, therefore, a safe generalisation that interception of a telephone conversation by these means

without the consent of the Post Office is in every case unlawful.

It will be remembered that interceptions made for police purposes by the Post Office itself were reviewed by a committee of Privy Counsellors under the chairmanship of Lord Birkett when the Marrinan case arose in 1957. Interceptions for these purposes are made by attaching to a telephone line an apparatus which records all the conversations passing along it. The apparatus is attached by Post Office engineers acting, and acting only, on the authority of a warrant addressed to the Postmaster General by the Home Secretary (or, in Scotland, the Secretary of State for Scotland) which specifies both the line to which the apparatus is to be attached and the time for which it is to be attached. The recordings made by the instrument are periodically sent to the authority (such as the Metropolitan Police) which asked for the interceptions to be made.

The modern practice is for such warrants to be issued by the Ministers concerned only where they are satisfied that interception is necessary for security purposes or for the detection of serious offences (including Customs offences).

Strange Conclusion on G.P.O.'s Powers

Lord Birkett's Committee devoted a large part of their Report to the legality of this practice and ended by endorsing the view previously expressed by the Home Secretary that it was justifiable as an exercise of the Royal Prerogative, by virtue of which, it was said, the Home Secretary could lawfully authorise what would otherwise be an unlawful interception.

The Committee's concern with this question is due entirely to their terms of reference; their conclusion is difficult to understand. The Post Office engineer who attached an apparatus of this kind without the authority of the Post Office would be committing a criminal offence against the Telegraph Act, 1868; but if he is acting in the execution of his duty, all that is involved is an adjustment by the Post Office to instruments which are its own property in circumstances where that adjustment is prohibited by neither the criminal nor the civil law. In short, the Post Office is in precisely the same position as a private company adjusting its own office equipment.

Plainly, there is no room here for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative, which is the common law power of the Crown to do that which would be unlawful if it were done by a private individual who found himself in the same position. It would, in any event, be a strange prerogative that enabled one Minister of the Crown (the Postmaster General) to do an act only if he were authorised by another Minister of the Crown (a Secretary of State); and in fact, as appeared from the Report of Lord Birkett's Committee, until 1937 the Post Office was content to decide without reference to the Home Office or the Scottish Office whether it should grant applications for the interception of particular telephone calls.

Admissibility in Law

Ordinarily no question can arise about the admissibility in civil proceedings of evidence of conversations recorded in this manner, because secrecy is the essence of the system and, with the unhappy exception of the case of Mr. Marrinan, the Government has always

refused to disclose even whether a particular line has been tapped or not. Information obtained from such interceptions is treated (and it is for this reason that it is obtained) in the same way as information provided by a police informer, that is to say, as a basis for further enquiries and action rather than as the basis for evidence to be given in court.

The other devices which have been mentioned, however, are, generally speaking, adopted with the express object of obtaining evidence to be given in court. Thus, in the case of Dr. Fox in 1959, the police listened in to the conversation with the object of obtaining evidence that would enable them to decide whether or not criminal proceedings should be instituted (and not, it should be observed, with the object of obtaining evidence to place before the General Medical Council).

The question whether such evidence is admissible is, so far as the English courts are concerned, a very easy one to answer. The legality of the manner in which any particular piece of evidence has been obtained is not, in England, material to the question of its admissibility. If it was unlawfully obtained, the person whose rights were infringed would have a right of action, for example, for trespass, in respect of the illegality, but neither he nor anyone else can find on that illegality any objection to the admission of the evidence in legal proceedings.

It should be noted that this rule (which appears to have everything to commend it from the point of view of both principle and common sense) does not qualify the rule that involuntary confessions are inadmissible. There is, indeed, no reason why it should. An involuntary confession is inadmissible, not because it has been unlawfully obtained (the fact that a confession was obtained by improper inducement or threat does not necessarily mean that it was unlawfully obtained), but because it is involuntary.

The rule certainly does not, however, apply, at any rate with the same force, in Scotland and it is possible that the courts there might in certain circumstances exclude evidence unlawfully obtained by one of the devices with which this article has been dealing.

Evidence of the Recordings

Finally, there is the question of the weight to be attached to the evidence so obtained. A clear and accurate recording has obvious advantages over both oral testimony and a written statement. It will almost certainly be a more accurate record than the oral testimony; and no written statement can reproduce the nuances conveyed by variations of inflection and intonation in the human voice.

There are, however, substantial disadvantages to be set against them. Where a witness is giving evidence of conversations which he himself overheard, there will necessarily be a problem of identification: that is to say, he will have to satisfy the court that the voices he heard were the voices of the people to whom he ascribes the conversation.

This problem becomes the more acute if the conversation is not overheard but recorded by an instrument, particularly if, as may often be the case, the quality of the recording is inferior. In a Scottish case at the beginning of last year, for example, in which the police had fitted up a microphone to record a conversa-

Cont. on opposite page

Security Gazette

IMPROVING PUBLIC PROTECTION

Health and Safety Plans in New Bill

ONE of the main pieces of legislation before the present Parliament will undoubtedly be the measure projected by the Home Secretary to establish safeguards for the public and for staffs in shops and stores, offices, railway premises, restaurants, and other places of public resort. It will tackle problems of safety with the detail and thoroughness displayed in the more recent measures dealing with factories and industrial premises.

Health and welfare aspects, as recommended in the report of the Gowers Committee, will be covered in a number of the major provisions of this most comprehensive measure. In formulating his proposals, Mr. Butler has sought the assistance, in consultation, of a large number of organisations interested, as well as the police and fire prevention authorities.

M.P.s Urge More Crime Precautions

It is unlikely that Members will relax the pressure they have recently applied to Government Departments to give a lead in the matter of crime prevention. There were many questions just prior to the Christmas adjournment calling for increased precautions by Banks and railways against safe and mail outrages. Nor were property owners and householders free from criticism. In Mr. Woodburn's view a great deal more could be done to discourage crime by making premises properly secure. A contributory cause of successful burglaries, he declared, was the failure to provide proper locks and other precautions against illegal entry, and he asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government to consider issuing a circular to all planning authorities urging them to make it a prerequisite of consent for building that the advice of the Crime Prevention Department of the Police should be complied with.

Sir K. Joseph replied that such a condition could not be regarded as proper to planning control. Mr. Woodburn retorted that the public were becoming alarmed at the degree to which occupiers of premises were contributing to crime and that the police regarded some of the locks and precautions almost as invitations to crime, especially to youths. He asked whether it was right that public money should be wasted "because of contributory negligence on the part of banks and others who are not taking proper precautions to safeguard their premises".

Sir K. Joseph recalled that the Prime Minister had said that this was more a matter for co-operation between owners of premises and the police.

Mr. Woodburn said the police were much concerned about the lack of co-operation, and surely it was for the Government to take some step in the matter.

Advisory Teams

Captain Kerby has been active in eliciting the numbers and personnel of committees and other bodies acting in an advisory capacity to Government Departments on a wide variety of subjects. From answers supplied



IN PARLIAMENT

by Mr. Butler, it appears that there are nine such bodies advising the Home Office. The most important are:

Interdepartmental Committee on the Business of the Criminal Courts, under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Streatfeild—8 members.

Departmental Committee for the Probation Service, under the chairmanship of Sir Roland P. Morison, Q.C.—13 members.

Departmental Committee on Magistrates' Courts in London, Chairman: Judge C. D. Aarvold—6 members.

Working Party on inflammable substances—20 members.

Working Party on the recruitment and training of approved school staffs—8 members.

Working Party on marking of road tank vehicles for bulk conveyance of dangerous substances—8 members.

Working Party on payment of counsel and solicitors for legal aid in the criminal courts—6 members.

Legal Notes, cont.

tion between an alleged blackmailer and his victim, it appears from the newspaper report of the proceedings, in which the Lord Justice-Clerk admitted in evidence a recording of the conversation, that a great deal of it was lost against "a background of atmospherics, passers-by, and railway noises".

There is also, of course, the point of substance that most recordings, whether made on tape or on a disc, are easily susceptible of forgery. A mechanical recording of the sentence "I am not guilty", for example, can be altered easily enough to record the words "I am guilty"; and the alteration would probably be undetectable.

This last point is one worth bearing in mind by those who are most vigorous in their attacks on the police in regard to the taking of statements from suspected persons and propose, in consequence, to replace the statement taken down in writing by a police officer with a recording of the accused's own words. Many of those who are prepared to believe, often on the scantiest of evidence, that an officer will forge a written confession are apparently convinced that no officer could, or (possibly) would, forge a mechanically recorded statement. Neither attitude does them much credit.

MONTHLY DIARY

By Security Chief

Fire Precautions: Allocation of Duties

We have recently read much about the 1959 Factories Act (Sections 9—17) dealing with fire, but how do we go about implementing these measures. In the November issue of the *Security Gazette*, I dealt with what my Company had done in this respect, but as we are a very large concern, with all kinds of services at our disposal, perhaps smaller firms might be embarrassed if they attempted to follow what we have done. So my thoughts this month have turned towards the implementation of the new legislation in the not so large industrial undertakings.

I suggest that a "Good Housekeeping" committee be formed under the chairmanship of a senior member of management. This committee would include:

1. Works' Security or Fire Officer.
2. Safety Officer.
3. Works' Engineer.
4. Foreman Electrician.
5. Foreman Painter.
6. Foreman Builder/Carpenter.

After prior notice, it would visit shops, mills, offices, stores, etc., with the managers of those particular sections. A report addressed to each manager making any necessary recommendations would follow each tour of inspection.

Each member of the "Good Housekeeping" committee could advise as follows:

Works Security or Fire Officer: (a) Correct type of fire-fighting equipment and its maintenance; (b) Position of fire and audible warning notices; (c) Calling the works' or local fire brigade; (d) Evacuation; (e) Assembly areas nearby, but allowing for free passage of fire-fighting equipment; (f) Training of fire marshals and fire rearguards; (g) Testing of audible warning systems at intervals of not more than three months, and the keeping of appropriate records of all tests and noting faults.

Safety Officer: (a) Choice of doors to be used as emergency exits, and the marking of escape routes, and the ensuring that all doors open outwards or are fixed on slides; (b) Area outside doors are kept clear of obstruction, and stairways, landings and hand rails are in good order; (c) Number and size of notices relating to exits and escape routes; (d) Alternative escape routes in the case of a high fire risk.

Works' Engineer: (a) Position of audible warning system and switches; (b) The number of warning systems necessary to cover the whole building, shop, office, etc.; (c) The practicability of erecting external stairways or exits and escape routes over roofs; (d) Notification to the committee of all future building developments.

Foreman Electrician: (a) Installation of correct type of audible warning systems and switches; (b) Providing labour for the immediate rectification of faults, and ensuring that the supply to electric warning systems is maintained at all times, even during major overhauls of electrical equipment.

Foreman Painter: (a) Provision of notices recommended by committee; (b) Ensuring that during a wash-down, or re-painting, the fire alarm, exit, escape route and audible warning notices are defaced for only the minimum of time.

Foreman Builder/Carpenter: (a) To advise on the practicability of altering and re-hanging exit doors; (b) To advise on strengthening existing landings and stairways which might become dangerous through overloading during evacuation; (c) To carry out periodical inspection and maintenance of roof escapes, stairways and exits; (d) To confirm to committee when any alterations in buildings have taken place so that attention can be given to re-siting escape routes and exit doors.

These are a few of the matters which could be taken into consideration by the respective members of the "Good Housekeeping" committee, who should also consult and work in close co-operation with the local fire service.

Car Accessory Thieves

What can we do to stop those confounded light-fingered beings who go out of their way to steal from cars? I was a victim during the first week in the New Year when I attended the local pantomime with my family. In an endeavour to be a good citizen I did not leave my car in the street, but drove it some quarter of a mile away and left it in a car park. I locked all doors and boot, and put my hidden engine switch in the "off" position. On my return three hours later I found that some kind gentleman had gone to a great deal of trouble to uncouple and take away my spot light, fog light, badge bar, windscreen wiper blades, and A.A. and C.V.M.

Sound suggestions for the allocation of fire prevention duties in smaller works and a cautionary note on car thieves are included in this month's regular feature.

badges. The thief no doubt came armed with the necessary tools because the badge bar was released by removing the retaining bolts, the heads of which were accessible only underneath and well behind the bumper-bar. A crude attempt had been made to open the four small ventilating louvres. Upon looking around I picked up nearby a piece of hardened steel hooked at one end 8 in. long, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. wide and about $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, which had undoubtedly been inserted through the join in the rubber fillets with the intention of releasing the catches.

I was naturally very annoyed when I discovered the loss because my car is only a few weeks old, and the thief had not been circumspect in removing my accessories—scratches on a new car are an abomination to any proud owner.

Looking back on this incident, I have been thinking of what I can do to prevent or make more difficult the removal of valued possessions in this manner. They are of value because their total cost was £15, and if I claim on my insurers I lose £18 no-claim bonus. My A.A. and C.V.M. badges will in future be affixed to the radiator grille so that access to fixing nuts can only be gained by unlocking the hood. I shall not fit another badge bar. A new pencil beam light and fog lamp will be positioned on a special bracket fitted to the underside of the bumper overriders, and I shall drill and peg all holding nuts and bolts.

Creases No More

While we all endeavour to emphasise the need for smartness in security sections, I think my readers will see the humorous side to this story of how conscientiousness can meet an unjust fate.

As a young and very enthusiastic member of a large police force, I lived in single men's quarters for a short time, and it was there, some 40 years ago, that I met Horace. Horace was always immaculately dressed in and out of uniform, and he boasted that he maintained the crease in his night uniform trousers by taking advantage of an unguarded mangle positioned in a slum area washhouse and used by the occupants of about a dozen back-to-back houses.

When next on plain-clothes night duty a colleague accompanied me to the place described by Horace and

Cont. on p. 61

Security Gazette

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Hounslow 3717



Excellent Response to Training Courses

THE large and enthusiastic response from members all over the country in applying for vacancies on the sixth Basic Training Course just held in Birmingham has been overwhelming and encouraging proof of the rapidly growing interest everywhere in improving professional standards and general efficiency. In spite of the fact that our maximum capacity for students is 35, we accepted 40 nominations for this course and have been obliged to commence a list of forward nominations for Basic Training Course No. 7.

The response to the announcement made in the December issue of the *Gazette* that the Midland Region Branch were planning a more advanced course for Chief Security Officers and Senior Industrial Police Officers, has also been very encouraging and so far no less than 40 requests for further details have been received. The Council is pressing on with the arrangements for this course and it is hoped that information will shortly be available.

Two other matters connected with training are deserving of comment. It is known that several firms and many members from the London area are interested in participating in local training courses and are patiently waiting for details to be announced. We should like to assure those interested that preliminary arrangements are at present being discussed and that once the London Branch has been set up it is hoped that a training programme will be announced.

Burnley's Instruction Step

It would be very remiss if we did not include a mention here of the Industrial Security Officers' Course which was held on 7th and 14th December, 1960, in Burnley, and which was arranged and provided by the Chief Constable of Burnley, Mr. L. Massey, M.B.E. A report and a photograph appeared on page 9 of the January issue of the *Gazette*.

Mr. Massey is to be congratulated both on his initiative and his choice of syllabus for this course. We sincerely hope that this first course for Industrial

Security Officers in Lancashire will be the forerunner of others designed to meet the training needs in the north-west, and in which the Lancashire Region Branch of the Association will take their part.

FORMATION OF LONDON BRANCH

As reported in the January issue of the *Gazette*, an ad hoc committee was appointed to carry out certain preliminary negotiations connected with the establishment of a Branch in the London area. The members have now completed their task and as a result of their efforts it should now be possible to proceed with the arrangements for convening an inaugural meeting of members in London during the next few weeks.

All members of the Association in the London area will be notified of the meeting, and it is hoped that as many as are able will make a special point of attending and taking part in the official business of appointing the Officers and Members of the Council of their own London Branch.

* * *

The correct addresses for correspondence to the Association are as follows:

From :

No. 10 Lancashire Region

i.e. the counties of Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (north of a line from Congleton to Sheffield).

To :

Mr. A. D. Bullock, Chairman, Industrial Police Association, No. 10 Lancashire Region Branch, 8 Pitville Avenue, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, 18.

Application for membership to:

Mr. A. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 20 Balmoral Avenue, Leyland, Lancashire.

From :

No. 9 Midland Region, and all other regions of the British Isles except No. 10 Region.

To :

Mr. D. V. Young, M.B.E., Chairman, Industrial Police Association, No. 9 Midland Region Branch, 20 Wycombe Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

Customs Seize £268,000 in Gold

Customs officials in Bombay are reported to have seized, in the last week of the year, £268,000 worth of gold which was being smuggled into India in a small fishing craft. The origin of the gold is thought to be somewhere in the Middle East where gold prices are considerably lower than those obtaining in India. This is yet another episode in the current story of large-scale international smuggling.

Southend Promotions

Following the retirement of Chief Inspector W. J. Thorogood, the following promotions have been made in the Southend-on-Sea Force: to Chief Inspector, Inspector W. A. Burles; to Inspector, Sergeant G. A. Dolby; and to Sergeant, Temporary Sergeant Perry.

TRIUMPHANT COUP BY B.T.C. POLICE

Irish Mail Gang Jailed

FOUR months of intensive shadowing of a mail gang ringleader by a British Transport Commission C.I.D. squad led in November to the surprising of a gang whilst actually in the act of opening bags on the Irish mail train.

Last month at the Old Bailey the leader, Terence John O'Malley, aged 40, of Finsbury, was sent to prison for 10 years; two other men, aged 37 and 30, both commercial photographers, received seven years; and a fourth, aged 28, unemployed, received five years.

The gang was the first to be caught while robbing a mail train. Last year there were 14 thefts from mail vans in the London Midland Region; they ceased after the gang's arrest, though there was no direct evidence to connect the gang and the raids.

In passing sentence, Commissioner Sir Gerald Dodson said: "You and

people who attack the mails seem to have lost sight of the fact that so grave is the situation and the offence in the eyes of the legislators that you make yourself liable to a life sentence".

O'Malley, it was said, was released from prison in August, 1958, after a four-year sentence for mail bag thefts. Though not at first suspected of being concerned in the fresh outbreaks, he was spotted leaving a train last August at Sheffield from which mail was found to be missing. Thereafter he was shadowed by detectives, led by Det. Inspector Kerr, and his planning of the raid was noted. On 11th November, the B.T.C. squad hid in the mail van and watched the gang open the door with a key and begin to slash open the bags. They were spotted by O'Malley but managed to overpower the gang.

In the 14 raids mentioned above, the G.P.O. lost packets worth £17,000.

FOUR YEARS FOR CASH ASSAULT

Praise for Employees

A recent incident involving the street ramming of a cash-carrying vehicle in London reached a conclusion at London Sessions last month when Alan Peter Kear, aged 22, a labourer, faced charges of stealing a Morris 1000 car and assaulting Mr. Norman William Donald with intent to rob Mr. David Cyril Evans.

He was found guilty by the jury of driving away the car after Mr. F. M. Cassells, deputy chairman, had directed that there was no evidence that he had stolen it, and guilty of assault. He was sentenced to four years for assault and one year imprisonment on the car charge, to run concurrently but consecutively on an 18 months' sentence passed on him in December.

It was stated that half an hour after being taken from a West End street, the car was used by a gang of hooded men, brandishing iron bars, to ram the employees' van. Mr. Cassells praised the great bravery of Mr. Donald and Mr. Evans in beating off the attack and causing the gang to flee in a waiting car.

Railway Porter's Theft of Mail Bags

In another mail case last month, a railway porter pleaded guilty at Herts. Quarter Sessions to five charges of theft, as a servant of the British Transport Commission, and of stealing a mail bag. He was sentenced to

COMMENTS ON B.R.S. DEPOT SECURITY Control of Pilfering

Two British Road Services night drivers, aged 29 and 28, were sent to prison for 15 months and a third was fined £150 at Birmingham last month after being found guilty of stealing dressing gowns worth £45 from the Walter Street, Lozells, depot.

Mr. P. Cox, for one of the men, asked Det. Constable E. Francis whether there were vast quantities of goods lying about at the depot with really no adequate security control over them? Constable Francis replied: "There are vast quantities of goods lying about, but there are security officials there."

The Assistant Recorder commented: "I got the strongest impression that there was considerable pilfering going on at this depot, and had been going on for some time." He told the three men: "It must be quite obvious that an organisation such as British Road Services, in a depot such as this, must have difficulties over labour and manpower, and cannot be expected to keep an eye on all the parcels all the time. Nor should it be demanded of them that they should keep an eye on their trusted servants."

12 months' imprisonment on each charge, to be served concurrently.

The man asked for 10 other offences to be considered. Det. Constable Kirby said he had admitted stealing 20 or 22 mail bags involving some £500 worth of property.

In the Courts

£28,000 CIGARETTE THEFT CONSPIRACY

For conspiracy to steal £28,000 worth of cigarettes from a British Road Services lorry, five men were sentenced to prison at the Old Bailey on 17th January. They were Edward Lancaster, 25, sentenced to two years; James Carrington, 30, to five years; John Clements, 47, to 18 months; Terence Marks, 23, and Gerald Sullivan, 24, to 12 months each.

This was the sequel to a series of events on the night of 14th-15th November, 1960, which began with the shadowing of a B.R.S. lorry carrying the cigarettes as it left the B.R.S. Nottingham, depot. By the time the B.R.S. lorry reached a transport cafe near Market Harborough, the driver's suspicions had been thoroughly aroused. He telephoned the police who caught up with the procession, gave chase to the suspect van and arrested all those inside it.

Monthly Diary, cont. from p. 58
there we viewed the position of the mangle in the washhouse, and, in fact, moved it nearer to the one window in the building, which we made sure was open six inches. Hiding ourselves nearby, we awaited the arrival of Horace who was shortly due to inspect adjoining lock-up property. In the stillness of the night we could hear Horace approaching by the noise he made when he examined his lock-up premises. He approached and entered the washhouse guided by the dim beam of light from his oil-fed lamp. When inside we emerged from our hiding place and it was not long before we heard the mangle being put through its trouser-pressing operation.

Positioning ourselves outside the open window we waited for the pause which preceded the mangle being put into reverse, and at this stage we put our hands through the open window and each grabbing a leg of the trousers pulled for all we were worth. The trousers came through all right and we ran as fast as our legs could carry us and took up another hiding position some little distance away. Really, even now I have to smile when the picture is reflected on my mind of Horace wearing a helmet, an overcoat, and boots with about eight inches of bare leg showing, walking back to his parade station to report the loss of his trousers to the Station Sergeant. Horace never discussed the episode with others in the single men's quarters and did not again boast of how he maintained his trouser creases!

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

The Security Gazette congratulates the following members of the police, fire, and security services included in the recent New Year Honours:

KNIGHT BACHELOR

Alexander Robertson, Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police.

C.B.E.

S. Lawrence, Chief Constable, Kingston-upon-Hull.
G. E. Liddle, County Commandant, Ulster Special Constabulary, Enniskillen.
A. W. Paramor, Chief Fire and Ambulance Officer, Birmingham.

O.B.E.

S. Ballance, Chief Constable, Barrow-in-Furness.
H. R. Balmer, Assistant Chief Constable, Liverpool.
J. A. Broadbent, Chief Officer, Wiltshire Fire Brigade.
R. M. Clark, Chief Constable, Airdrie.
E. H. Halse, Deputy Commissioner of Police, N. Rhodesia.
E. E. Thomas, Joint Intelligence Bureau Officer, Grade I, Ministry of Defence.
D. O. Trench, Assistant Chief Constable, War Office.

M.B.E.

W. J. Bell, District Commandant, Ulster Special Constabulary.
J. W. Breen, Deputy Superintendent Police, Aden.
R. V. Colquhoun, lately Chief Superintendent, Glasgow City Police.
A. S. K. Cook, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Uganda.
L. J. Goodbourn, Assistant Chief Constable, West Sussex.
G. T. Hargreaves, Intelligence Officer, Grade I, British Services Sec., Organ., Germany.
J. H. Helm, Chief Officer, Isle of Ely Fire Brigade.
E. A. R. Hibbitt, Divisional Officer, Surrey Fire Brigade.
H. E. Howlett, Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police.
S. W. Irvine, District Inspector, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
V. G. Lashley, Acting Senior Superintendent of Police, Trinidad.
J. F. Lucas, Principal Station Radio Officer, Government Communications, H.Q.
H. R. Middleton, Superintendent of Police, Federation of Malaya.
J. R. Middleton, Superintendent of Police, Jamaica.
W. J. Neal, Chief Fire Officer, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell.
W. H. Paul, Divisional Officer, Liverpool Fire Brigade.
W. J. B. Pearson, Chief Superintendent, Durham County Constabulary.

H. E. Price, Chief Commander, Birmingham Special Constabulary.

C. G. St. Louis, Acting Senior Superintendent of Police, Trinidad.

R. L. Speight, Detective Superintendent of Police, Zanzibar.

W. R. Stone, Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police.

F. R. Trust, Divisional Officer (Senior Staff Officer), London Fire Brigade.

P. B. G. Waller, Superintendent of Police, Federation of Malaya.

QUEEN'S POLICE MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

R. H. T. Beaumont, Commissioner of Police, Fiji.
A. Bennifer, Superintendent, North Riding Constabulary.
F. J. Brady, Chief Superintendent, New Zealand Police.
G. I. Burgess, Chief Superintendent Metropolitan Police.
H. E. Byrne, Superintendent, State of Victoria Police Force.
N. R. Cressy, Deputy Commissioner, Nigeria Police Force.
A. N. M. Davies, Commissioner, Nigeria Police Force.
S. Grey, Chief Constable, South Shields Borough Police.
J. Hall, Superintendent, Cumberland and Westmorland Constabulary.
G. McL. Harvey, Senior Assistant Commissioner, British S. Africa Police.
A. I. Hunter, Head Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
E. S. G. King, Superintendent Metropolitan Police.
A. G. Langdon, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Jamaica.
N. R. Lenton, Inspector (1st Class), South Australia Police Force.
M. J. McKinlay, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tanganyika.
G. McMaster, Superintendent, Fife Constabulary.
I. V. B. Mills, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kenya.
E. Palmer, Chief Superintendent, Birmingham City Police.
E. W. C. Pendleton, Chief Constable, Coventry City Police.
H. S. Phillipbrown, Assistant Chief Constable, Essex Constabulary.
J. A. Robertson, Chief Constable, Glasgow City Police.
E. W. Rosewarne, Superintendent, State of Victoria Police Force.
W. Segrue, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Hong Kong.
V. T. Smithyman, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Nyasaland.
L. Stretton, Superintendent, Derbyshire Constabulary.

A. S. Tannahill, Chief Inspector, State of Victoria Police Force.

T. G. Wall, Superintendent, Metropolitan Police.

S. Wilkinson, Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable, Worcester City Police.

A. M. Woolgar, lately Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police.

COLONIAL POLICE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

H. Baker, Assistant Superintendent, Kenya.
J. Bell, Senior Superintendent, Kenya.
J. D. Blake, Senior Superintendent, Tanganyika.
S. F. S. Bristow, Superintendent, Chakwora, British S. Africa Police.
D. A. Fairouf, Assistant Commissioner, N. Borneo.
J. J. Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent, Trinidad.
J. H. Goodman, Chief Inspector, Hong Kong.
A. S. Greiff, Superintendent, Tanganyika.
D. A. Griffin, Senior Superintendent, Uganda.
J. L. Hutchinson, Detective Sergeant, Jamaica.
T. Kavanagh, Superintendent, Hong Kong.
A. H. Kirkwood, Staff Chief Inspector, British S. Africa Police.
E. A. Murray, Inspector, St. Lucia Fire Brigade.
G. D. Patterson, Superintendent, N. Rhodesia.
R. H. M. Read, Superintendent, Kenya.
J. J. U. Reynolds, Inspector, St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla.
A. Roberts, Deputy Commissioner, Bahamas.
B. L. Robinson, Superintendent, Jamaica.
N. G. Rolph, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Hong Kong.
R. F. Trangmar, Detective 1st Sergeant, British S. Africa Police.
J. L. Wordsworth, Superintendent, Depot Chief Inspector, British S. Africa Police.
A. J. Yates, Superintendent, Nyasaland.

THE QUEEN'S FIRE SERVICE MEDAL

H. Bretherick, Assistant Chief Officer, Staffs. Fire Brigade.
W. Hindley, Divisional Officer, Lancs. Fire Brigade.
F. L. G. Hopkins, Divisional Officer, Essex Fire Brigade.
J. McIntyre, Chief Officer, Cumberland Fire Brigade.
R. R. W. Patrick, Chief Fire Officer, Mombasa.
S. F. Willey, Chief Officer, Exeter Fire Brigade.

Book Review

ALMOST THE OLDEST PROFESSION

The Modern Smuggler. By David E. Walker

(Secker & Warburg: 18/- net)

THOUGH no cynic, after reading Mr. Walker's book, your reviewer might be driven to the superficial and depressing assumption that we ought to be satisfied in the field of smuggling with maintaining a sort of balance of action, never aiming at the total elimination of any particular known organisation but simply pruning it here and there to keep it within manageable, observable proportions, for, after a round-up of any organisation of this kind and the arrest of all its members, the authorities are faced with the certain knowledge that another group of criminals not so well penetrated or documented in their files is waiting to take over where the suppressed organisation left off, and the macabre relay race goes on.

Mafia's Survival

Take, for example, the Mafia, which controls the narcotics traffic in Italy and America. Mr. Walker writes: "As a movement the Mafia

has been crushed over and over again. It still exists and it is still powerful. It possesses gold bullion reserves which nobody can estimate, a code of honour which murder and imprisonment do not affect, and an unquenchable predilection for vice of all kinds. Since the end of prohibition in America it has turned its mind and its talents to prostitution and drug smuggling. Now that the threat has been recognised the U.S. authorities are closing in on the organisation, but authorities have closed in before . . ."

Drug Peddling

It is difficult for the man in the street to believe that all Mr. Walker describes does in fact go on. Smuggled diamonds, unless he is a shareholder in De Beers, leave him cold: smuggled Swiss watches he may come in contact with, without knowing it; smuggled gold is unlikely to come his way, and unless he has a drug addict or a black sheep in the

family, he is only mildly interested in Press stories of drug and gun running. If he gives the matter serious thought at all he will reserve his condemnation only for the drug pedlar. Even so, there is no very strong and active public opinion consciously working in support of the forces and agencies at work to stamp out the evil, particularly in the countries where the traffic is most rife.

Fortunately for us, drug addiction is not a serious problem in this country, a matter of one in 150,000. Canada is less fortunate, with ten times the number of addicts for a population one-third the size of our own. The figures Mr. Walker gives for America are really appalling, and if he is correct, there is one known addict for every 3,000 members of the population.

The blurb on the dust jacket of *The Modern Smuggler* underestimates the serious content of Mr. Walker's excellent book and, lively though it may be, and certainly packed with facts gleaned in a wide experience in many parts of the world, its message should exhilarate no one. The subject is almost as glamorous as prostitution and almost as old.

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Comment and News

SPECIAL BRANCH ARRESTS

Reports of Peak C.I. Activity

Wide public interest was aroused last month by the simultaneous arrest on 7th January of five persons, two of whom were civil servants employed in a pay office at the Admiralty's anti-submarine experimental base, the Underwater Weapons Establishment at Portland, Dorset. All five were subsequently charged with offences under Section I of the Official Secrets Act. The names of those concerned are Peter John Kroger, 50, believed to be a Canadian; Helen Joyce Kroger, 50, his wife; Gordon Arnold Lonsdale, 37, company director; Ethel Elizabeth Gee, 46, civil servant; Henry Frederick Houghton, 55, civil servant.

The arrests are the result of months of patient enquiries and 24-hour surveillance by M.I.5, Admiralty Intelligence and the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, which were set on foot when suspicions of leakages of secret information from Portland were aroused early in the autumn.

Following on this incident, reports appeared in the newspapers in the middle of the month that a thorough security check-up was in progress in all Government departments and firms engaged on secret work.

A further case of alleged infringement of the Official Secrets Act was reported on 18th January when Bryan Scott, aged 19, a translator, was detained at Chelsea Police Station where he had been brought at pistol point by "a member of the public". Scott was charged under Section I (2) of the Official Secrets Act.

It was stated later that Scott had been a naval radio operator, but had left the service "recently".

Accounts appeared during the month of increased counter-intelligence activities directed particularly at the uncovering and watching of espionage links which, with East European and Russian connections, have been operating on a Commonwealth basis.

REPLIES TO ADVERTISERS

Our readers are particularly invited to mention the *Security Gazette* when they make enquiries in response to advertisements.

THREE NURSES SHARE £1,200 REWARD

As a result of giving information which led to the recovery of a part of the £27,000 stolen from Barclay's Bank, Bordesley, last September, three nurses of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, are to receive £1,200. £600 of this comes from the insurers and Barclays Bank Ltd. have matched this sum with a further £600.

£250 CLEARING BANK'S REWARD

Another recognition of service from the public comes in the form of a cheque for £250 given to a King's Heath, Birmingham, man for the assistance he gave in the arrest of two men who held up the Yardley Wood branch of the Birmingham Municipal Bank on 9th November.

The men received 15 years' imprisonment at Birmingham Assizes. They also admitted a second hold-up at a Barclays branch in Sudbury, Middlesex.

The recipient of the cheque noted the number of a car which cut in on him when he was delivering cleaners on the afternoon of the raid. When he heard of the raid and that a car of the same colour was wanted, he phoned the police who were able to trace it.

F.G.S. LTD. INCREASE PAY RATES

Factory Guard System Ltd. has introduced a higher scale of pay for the company's security officers to take account of the new levels of pay for the police Forces.

The company reports that the consequential effect on charges has been generally accepted by subscribers to its security and night guard services.

75% MORE SAFES FOUND OPEN

Over 50,000 reports were made in 1960 by F.G.S. officers. The returns show that there was an increase of 75 per cent in the number of safes found open—264. Keys taken charge of numbered 445; breakings and thefts discovered 104; faulty locks, etc., discovered 1,867. On the fire side, 76 fires were discovered for brigade action and 133 fires were extinguished by the officers. Fire resisting doors were found open or faulty in 489 cases.

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SITUATION VACANT

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Securicor guards are responsible for the safety of Ireland's greatest art treasure, the 1,000 year old "Book of Kells", insured for £1,000,000, while it is on exhibition in this country.

FRENCH CRIME WAVE FIGURES

Rounding off a record year for crime in France, Paris criminals got away with £50,000 worth of jewellery over the four days of Christmas. It would seem that throughout 1960 criminal elements have been quick to take advantage of the pre-occupation of the police with the stamping out of Algerian terrorism in metropolitan France.

Comparative figures speak for themselves: 38 hold-ups (28 in 1959); 1,500 burglaries (823 in 1955); 166 armed attacks (57 in 1955).

Blamed for the increase in crime, apart from the Algerian problem, are the shortage of manpower and the disappearance of the old type of French policeman who knew his criminal flock and their habits and haunts and had many personal contacts in the underworld.

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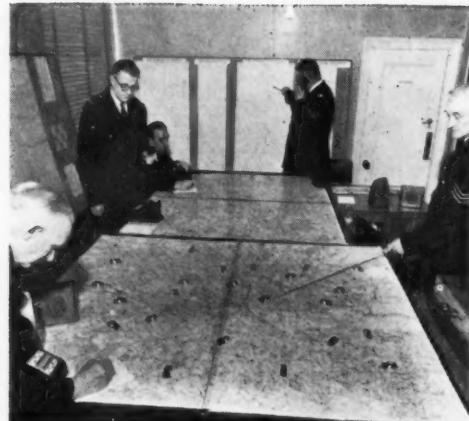
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